

Hafa Adai!

FBI: \$300M increase in losses among victims of elder abuse. PAGE 3
MVA to add \$13M to its budget proposal for FY 2022. PAGE 8

75¢

Saipan Tribune

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, 11th from left, breaks ground alongside other officials at the Kingfisher Golf Links on Thursday morning at an event marking the start of work on "Phase II" of DPW's Route 36 project, which involves construction and improvement of spans of road near the Kingfisher Golf Links going to Bird Island and the construction of two large concrete box culverts to greatly improve water drainage in the area.

JOSHUA SANTOS

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www.saipantribune.com
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CNMI now at Level Green

AT A GLANCE

As of 7:28pm, June 17, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population **60.1%**
 Fully Vaccinated: **60.1%**

| Pfizer/BioNTech | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Initiated: | 23,723 |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 21,529 |
| Moderna | |
| Initiated: | 4,031 |
| Fully Vaccinated: | 3,556 |
| Janssen | |
| Fully vaccinated: | 369 |

| GUAM | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-----|---------|
| Positive | 8,261 | 5 | 8,266 |
| Recovered | 8,066 | 5 | 8,071 |
| Active | 51 | 5 | 56 |
| Deaths | 139 | 0 | 139 |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested | | | 173,736 |

| SAIPAN | OLD | NEW | TOTAL |
|--|-----|-----|---------|
| Positive | 183 | 0 | 183 |
| Traced via Travel Screening | 147 | 0 | 147 |
| Traced via Community Screening | 36 | 0 | 36 |
| Deaths | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Cumulative Number of Persons Tested | | | 26,131* |
| Days since last community transmission | | | 86 |

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Effective today, June 18, 2021, the CNMI will move to Level Green in the five-color Community Vulnerability risk scale.

Level Green corresponds to a COVID-19 Rating between 1.80 and 2.00 or greater. At this level, the levels of positive cases for COVID-19 and the risk to public health are

low as long as points of entry mitigation continues as necessary and until the governor rescinds the emergency declaration for the Commonwealth.

In line with this change, the
See GREEN on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

PROTOCOLS

Fully vaccinated people are able to participate in outdoor and indoor activities, in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

Unvaccinated individuals should remain cautious and continue to wear face masks and practice social distancing at all times, especially when in the company of others who are not vaccinated and

those whose vaccinations cannot be verified

All entities are permitted up to 100% occupancy if vaccination completion is verifiable, and 75% if

See PROTOCOLS on Page 4

\$4M in homeowners aid out soon

By BEA CABRERA
 beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
 CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI has been allocated \$4 million that it can disburse to help homeowners keep up with rent or mortgage pay-

ment under a Homeowners Assistance Fund program.

This funding is part of the \$40 billion that the federal government is providing under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. "These funds

includes rental and mortgage assistance to help homeowners recover and not lose their homes," said Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig during his public presentation

See \$4M on Page 4

LTR applicants get automatic parole extension

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will automatically extend parole and employment authorization, if applicable, for parolees who timely applied for CNMI long-term resident status. USCIS

will extend the parole through the end of 2021 or until their LTR applications are adjudicated, whichever comes first.

In a news release yesterday to announce the extension, USCIS said this specific ex-

tension of parole applies only to current parolees who timely filed Form I-955, Application for CNMI Long-Term Resident Status, and Form I-765, Application for Em-

See LTR on Page 4

Together we can take the Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge

TOGETHER, WE CAN

By MIKE SABLAN
 Special to the Saipan Tribune



Mike Sablan is vice president of Triple J Enterprises, Inc. and chairperson of the Domestic Policy and Recovery Committee of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisers. As an advisory council for Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, the GCEA's mission is to improve the quality of life in the Marianas for all residents.

Our friends at the Marianas Visitors Authority launched the Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge and are taking the right steps to ensure that we continue to provide authentic Marianas experiences for our visitors. Proposed by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce through its president, Joe Guerrero, the Hafa Adai & Tirow

See TOGETHER on Page 4



INSIDE



LOCAL

Filmah Buenafior will serve as Mount Carmel School's vice principal for the school year.

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BUSINESS

Pacific Island Club Saipan in San Antonio is reopening its waterpark this Saturday.

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LIFE & STYLE

"Real Housewives of Salt Lake City" star Jen Shah wants the charges against her to be dismissed.

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Local

Man arrested for throwing flower pot through window

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has imposed a \$1,000 unsecured bail on a man who allegedly threw a flower pot through his house's window, because his wife did not pick him up after he had gone out for a drink with friends.

Lerins Stole, 54, was arrested last June 14 on a charge of disturbing the peace to include domestic violence.

During his bail modification and initial hearing last Wednesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho ordered that Stole be remanded back to custody of the Department of Corrections until a third-party custodian is appointed for him.

Stole is scheduled to return to court on June 23 for a preliminary hearing and again on June 28 for an arraignment.

According to court documents, Stole allegedly threw a flower pot at the bedroom window where his common law wife was sleeping at around 10pm last Monday because she did not pick him up from Susupe where he had been drinking, although he al-

legedly had the car with him.

The victim told police that she had been involved in an argument with Stole earlier that day. She said she picked him up in Susupe and he started an argument about her sleeping with someone else and continued to argue with her until they got home.

At home, Stole allegedly continued to yell and accused his wife of sleeping with someone else before driving off in their vehicle. At around 10pm, the victim said was awoken by Stole throwing a flower pot at the bedroom window, shattering it. She said he was yelling at her for not picking him up in Susupe.

In an interview with Stole, he told police that he had been drinking all day and walked home from Susupe to Koblerville at night because none of his family members picked him up. He said he was pissed off when he arrived home because his car was not home. He said he did not remember driving his car to Susupe.

He said he knocked on the window twice and when she did not wake up, he picked up a nearby flower pot and threw it at the window.

HANA

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FBI: \$300M increase in losses among victims of elder abuse

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Nationally, the CNMI ranks 56th among states and territories that reported incidents of elder abuse, with records showing five victims and a total of \$66,000 in fraud losses. In comparison, Guam ranks 54th nationwide, with 18 victims and \$55,248 in fraud losses.

These numbers form part of the 2020 Elder Fraud Report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation released Wednesday, showing an increase of approximately \$300 million in fraud losses reported by victims over 60 years old in states and U.S. territories, when compared to the statistics in 2019.

According to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center report, IC3 received a total of 791,790 complaints in 2020, with reported losses exceeding \$4.1 billion.

Based on the information provided in the complaints, approximately 28% of the total fraud losses were sustained by victims over the age of 60, resulting in approximately \$1 billion in losses to seniors.

Calvin Shivers, assistant director of the FBI Criminal Investigative Division, stated in the report that this represents an increase of approximately \$300 million in losses reported in 2020 versus what was reported by victims over 60 in 2019.

Based on the total number of complaints by victims over

60 from each state, American territory, and the District of Columbia when the complaint provided state information, California ranks number one with 12,534 victims and \$156,644,032 in losses, followed by Florida with 9,252 victims and \$84,649,328 in losses.

American Samoa is on 57 or last in the rank with two victims but zero in loss.

To educate the public and provide as much information on the types of frauds targeting seniors as possible, Shivers said the IC3 is offering its first publication of the 2020 IC3 Elder Fraud Annual Report. This report is a companion report to the 2020 IC3 Annual Report released in March 2021.

He said millions of elderly Americans fall victim each year to some type of financial fraud or internet scheme, such as romance scams, tech support fraud, and lottery or sweepstakes scams.

Shivers said criminals gain their targets' trust or use tactics of intimidation and threats to take advantage of their victims. He said once successful, scammers are likely to keep a scheme going because of the prospect of significant financial gain.

FBI spokesman Michele Ernst said the report is based solely on complaints made to IC3 and the numbers also only reflect online complaints made by victims who voluntarily provided an age range as "over 60."

Fire Academy in early to mid-July

By **JOSHUA SANTOS**
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REPORTER

The Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services has scheduled its 14th Fire Academy to begin around early to mid-July.

The 14th Fire Academy will be a five to six-month program where cadets will take part in classes, physical agility tests, and hands-on training to build skills necessary to the job.

DFEMS training coordinator J.J. Concepcion said that DFEMS is right now in the process of screening 155 prospective applicants.

Concepcion said the ongoing process from applicant to fire academy cadet begins with applying for a firefighting job at the CNMI Office of Personnel Management, who will then contact DFEMS saying that they have received an application. DFEMS then calls applicants and asks them to go to its training center on Capital Hill to pick up prerequisite forms. A part of these prerequisites is ob-

taining English 101 certification through completing a course at the Northern Marianas College.

Once prerequisites are completed, pre-academy physical and agility tests are conducted, then followed by panel selection, and more prerequisites such as drug testing. Once a prospect passes all of this, they are a cadet in the fire academy.

Currently, there are 53 cadets so far who have passed all prerequisites and await the academy in July. All selected cadets in July will vie for 36 slots on Saipan, 10 on Rota, and six on Tinian. DFEMS prospects from Tinian and Rota will be flying over for the academy.

Concepcion said that proof of COVID-19 vaccination is a prerequisite this time.

ARMATECH



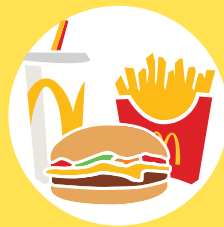
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FROM THE STAFF AND MANAGEMENT OF



Joeten Motors
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Over 100 join PUA protest

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A group of over 100 individuals that have banded together in a Facebook group called CNMI PUA Group staged a protest yesterday at the Kilili Pavilion in Oleai to raise awareness about Pandemic Unemployment Assistance issues such as delays and non-issuance of benefits.

CNMI PUA Group Facebook page administrator Candy Feliciano said that roughly 150 came out throughout the day to participate in what was billed as their third PUA protest. Some protesters waved cardboard signs and someone was speaking over a microphone.

Feliciano said yesterday's protest had the best turnout so far in terms of the number of participants. In addition, Rep. Ed Propst (D-Saipan), Edith Deleon Guerrero (D-Saipan), and U.S. Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan (Ind-MP) stopped by to hear some of their concerns.

According to her, the purpose of the event was to spread awareness that there are still people who are

waiting for their PUA.

"There are a lot who are still suffering and have not received even PUA 1 and now PUA 2 is ending and PUA 3 will be starting soon. Many have not received anything at all. There were also cases of people being approved then disapprove, so imagine what they're going through. They received their approval and then later they received a letter that they were actually disapproved and must give back the money that they were given," she said.

One of the protestors, a 60-year-old woman who asked that she not be named, said she has been furloughed since March 2020. When the first PUA launched in 2020, the woman, a CW-1 worker who has been in the CNMI legally for 30 years, applied for assistance because everyone was urged to apply. After getting a pay date, she was informed that she was ineligible.

When PUA 2 came around, she was filled with hope again after it was announced that CWs were now eligible. But like the first PUA, PUA 2 came with its own disappointments, requiring her, and many oth-

ers like her, to jump through hoops for assistance that, to this day, they haven't received.

"Until now I haven't received anything. I keep calling but they never answer. When I did get an answer once, it was just 'be patient.' Then, I got a call that I need more documents like a time sheets, even though I gave them check stubs. That call was almost a month ago," she said.

The woman is asking for DOL to consider the hardships people like her, who have been patient, are facing. People who have lost their jobs for over a year now, who have family that they need to provide for, who have to choose between food or paying rent.

Another woman, a 51-year-old U.S. citizen named Maria Pasand, said PUA has caused her so much stress with the vague responses and slow process.

She said that they continuously tell her to be patient, "How can I be patient? I have an 11-year-old I need to provide for," she said.

The woman, who also didn't qualify for Rental Assistance, says she was banking on PUA to help her with her rent but to this day, she hasn't received her PUA 2.

A 49-year-old bus driver said he was shocked to see that all the data inputted into his PUA portal just disappeared. "Two weeks ago, I logged into my portal and everything was gone. Prior to that, all my claims said 'in progress,'" he said.

At first, he thought it was just a glitch because it had happened to his co-workers but a few days later, they got pay dates and his claims

did not reappear.

"When I called Department of Labor, it was so hard to get through. When I finally got through, I was told 'be patient' but how can I when I have a car to pay," he said.

He added that a number of his co-workers already received PUA 2 and he just wants transparency as to why many others, including himself, have yet to receive theirs.

LTR

From Page 1

ployment Authorization, and whose applications remain pending on June 30, 2021.

USCIS will automatically extend their parole (and employment authorization, if applicable) without interruption through Dec. 30, 2021, or the date that USCIS makes a final decision on their Form I955 and Form I-765, whichever is earlier.

TOGETHER

From Page 1

Pledge calls for companies, organizations, and individuals to commit to promoting and preserving our local culture, traditions, and values through their day-to-day operations. It also encourages us to live the values of our culture daily and to treat each other and our visitors with the kindness, respect, and hospitality that we are known for.

Using simple Hafa Adai and Tirow greetings in written and oral communications is a great start. Businesses are also encouraged to utilize the Chamorro and Carolinian languages in their signs and advertisements. The pledge also encourages the perpetuation of the local arts. Playing cultural music and displaying local artwork in public places is part of the pledge too.

In the future, we will have more opportunities to highlight local products, artworks, food, music, and dance. The Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce has awarded the Marianas with a \$21.2 million grant for cultural and sports tourism projects. A dedicated cultural facility will be built across the Oleai Sports Complex. We will be able to proudly display what makes us unique as a people, which is a unique value proposition that we offer our visitors.

While we work on promoting our culture and traditions, it is equally important to practice the values that make us a mindful and responsible Marianas. Last weekend, the Division of Coastal Resources Management held the Saipan Ocean Fair,

raising awareness of the importance of taking better care of the oceans. Responsible stewardship of our islands, natural resources, and the ocean is a shared vision of the Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge. It is also one that the GCEA firmly stands behind.

Studies show that cultural and ecotourism will be critical components in bringing the tourism industry back to life across the globe. An article published on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's website noted the emergence of a "new and more environmentally and socially conscious global travel market" from the pandemic. Transforming our parks and village facilities has been the smartest investment we've made in our home and tourism industry.

The Hafa Adai & Tirow Pledge is catching on, and our residents are joining this important movement. This past week, MVA held its first pledge on Tinian with several business owners signing up for the campaign. We encourage more groups and individuals on all the islands to take the pledge.

This campaign will be crucial to our efforts to promote the Marianas as a sustainably developed multi-island destination with a unique and rich culture. We envision our islands as a destination that offers fun, quality getaways to responsible travelers looking to explore and commune with nature and learn from our culture and traditions. This will help bring in higher tourism revenue while protecting our environment and focusing on providing a better quality of life for residents. Together we can ensure that our islands, culture and traditions are preserved and generously shared for generations to come.

nations are not verifiable.

■ Indoor gatherings of people from different households of less than 150 people are permitted throughout the Commonwealth if vaccination completion is not verifiable.

■ Indoor/Outdoor gatherings of 100% fully vaccinated individuals are permitted throughout the Commonwealth and as long as vaccination is verifiable.

Source: Office of the Governor

GREEN

From Page 1

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force have issued new guidance in terms of mask-wearing, vaccinations, and building occupancies, among other protocols.

As of June 17, 2021, 72.7% of the adult population already had their first dose and 66.4% of the 12 and older population had already had their first dose. A total of 25,454 individuals or 60.1% of the 12-and-older population have already been fully vaccinated. The goal is to reach at least 80% or more.

Safest place

"I want to thank all our federal and local partners, our businesses, our [Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.] CEO Esther Muna, our [Governor's COVID-19 Task Force chair] Warren Villagomez, our first responders, and our doctors and nurses for their hard work and collaboration, as well as our entire community for their patience and support," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a statement yesterday.

"For more than a year, the challenge of keeping everyone safe was not easy, but together we successfully made the CNMI one of the safest places in the world, and it is recognized by our federal partners, our source markets, and our regional counterparts. Let us continue to be vigilant and safe and work together as we move forward in this next step

towards true normalcy," he added.

"I want everyone in our community to know that since the start of the pandemic, our priority was always to ensure everyone was protected by mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in the CNMI," said Muña.

"With the milestone achievements of fully vaccinated CNMI residents, I want to reassure you that our priority has not changed with this new guideline. I urge all organization leaders to continue to exercise caution with this new normal and that if you're unsure of the vaccine status, then strengthen your safety measures to protect those who have not had their COVID-19 vaccines or who might have a health condition that makes them vulnerable to severe coronavirus infection. Let's all strive to achieve the goal of 80% of our eligible population being fully vaccinated," she added.

Health protocols

The Green color classification entails three levels, depending on the vaccination rate (less than 60%, more than 60%, and 80% vaccination rate). Right now, the CNMI is at 60.1%. The Office of the Governor issued revisions to the health protocols but there was no immediate word on the curfew (2am to 4am), whether it is still in effect or already rescinded.

Last May, Torres unveiled the CNMI Economic Recovery Plan, using color codes to determine the COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Level (Red as least safe;

Orange; Yellow; Blue; and Green as safest). The numbers of tests completed were aggregated and based upon the testing statistics provided by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Covid-19 Task Force.

The last rating of Blue was announced in September 2020. No rating was announced thereafter as fewer individuals found the need to get tested when community cases were limited to a cluster case that occurred in March 2021.

To date, cases are continuously detected and contained at the CNMI's ports of entry. The CNMI's total cases as of June 15, 2021, is 183 with an overall positivity rate of 0.1%, far below most other U.S. jurisdictions. Since the first detection of COVID-19 in the CNMI, two have died and four were hospitalized.

While the CNMI did not have a mask mandate, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC, and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force emphasized the importance of the 3W's of wearing a mask, washing hands, and watching your distance successfully to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Current guidance from CDC stresses that if one is fully vaccinated, masks are to be worn when required by the location or jurisdiction. Determining who is vaccinated can be difficult and therefore some restrictions must remain until CNMI reaches herd immunity of 80% and greater. *(Saipan Tribune)*

cies, eviction and foreclosure.

NMHC deputy corporate director Zenie P. Mafnas said that ARPA allotted \$4 million to the CNMI for the Homeowners Assistance Fund. "We will be facilitating the HAF program for the CNMI. The Secretary of Finance will be the authorized official for the funds since the funds are under the ARPA program. We want to ensure proper tracking of all ARPA

funds through the [DOF]," she said.

"...we hope to move to the next steps within a week or so. ...There were few clarifications being addressed by the Department of Finance as requested by the U.S. Treasury [Department]," she added.

\$4M

From Page 1

of the ARPA spending plan early this month.

In the CNMI, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. will facilitate the distribution of these funds to eligible homeowners to assist in mortgage payments to prevent late payments, delinquen-

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

PROTOCOLS

From Page 1

not verifiable. Entities should enforce social distancing precautions and promote the wearing of face masks, when vaccinations are not verified or when customers are from a different household.

■ Community events are under strict social distancing parameters and reduced occupancy if vacci-

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Happy
Father's Day




From the Office of Senate President
Jude Untalan Hofschneider
and the Members of the 22nd Senate
Commonwealth Legislature

.....
A FATHER
IS NEITHER AN ANCHOR TO
HOLD US BACK
— NOR A SAIL TO —
TAKE US THERE
BUT A GUIDING LIGHT WHOSE
LOVE
.....
SHOWS US THE WAY
— H A P P Y —
FATHER'S DAY
.....

Hafa Adai! from the staff and management of
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Wishing all fathers a wonderful day filled with treasured memories, immense joy and everlasting love.

HAPPY
Father's
DAY



David M. Apatang
Mayor of Saipan and staff

THANK YOU, SI YU'US MA'ASE, AND GHILLISOW

Pride Marianas to host KIKI on June 19 at Aqua poolside

The Pride Marianas committee invites the CNMI LGBTQA+ community and all allies to join in this year's Pride soiree—called KIKI—this Saturday evening, June 19, from 8pm to midnight at the Aqua Resort poolside.

Entry is \$20 and includes two free drinks, a raffle ticket, performances, professional DJ, and pool access. Additional drinks, raffle tickets, and food will be available for purchase, with food and drink specials running all night.

This event is open to individuals 21 years and older. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/3cMHtDG>.

Pride Marianas KIKI is a safe-space celebration promoting inclusion and love among all people. All funds go toward covering the costs of creating this safe, inclusive, and fabulous event, and promoting a more inclusive CNMI that supports diversity and individual expression.

Historically, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations—LGBT—have faced discrimination, bullying, and other adverse treat-

ment from peers, classmates, family, and other members of their own community. Some of this adverse treatment of LGBT individuals still occurs today. This celebration aims to fight these negative behaviors and raise awareness in our community. This celebration welcomes and embraces people from every color of the rainbow.

The committee has been hard at work to create a fabulous event for Pride 2021, and appreciates the support from all partners, sponsors, and allies that have contributed to making this event possible: Pride Marianas Youth, Top Shelf Wine & Spirits, Rep. Sheila Babauta, Marpac, Joeten Enterprises, Turnkey Solutions, Pacifica Insurance, Roil Soil, T-Project, Athlete's Foot, Marianas Crane, Naked Fish, and Tribe Marianas. The support from all allies in the community creates a safer, stronger, more diverse CNMI.

Anyone with questions about the event can contact the committee at pridemarianas@gmail.com. (PR)

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MVA to add \$13M to its budget proposal for FY 2022

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority will be adding \$13 million to the \$3.2 million that MVA originally asked for as its budget for fiscal year 2022.

Speaking at the House Ways and Means Committee hearing Tuesday afternoon, MVA board chair Viola Alepuyo said what they would be requesting is essentially a reinstatement of the fiscal year 2018 budget level amount of approximately \$15.7 million.

Alepuyo said this is broken as \$5 million for destination enhancement; \$2 million for sustainability; \$5 million for offshore offices, which would include China, Korea, and others, and \$1 million for MVA

staff and equipment.

"In order for us to do our job effectively, we need MVA up to where we are and so that's a total of \$13 million in addition to the \$3.2 million that we originally requested," she said.

Alepuyo disclosed their planned budget amendment request after committee chair Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) asked MVA how much additional money they need and how it would be used.

Alepuyo and MVA managing director Priscilla Iakopo and other MVA officials who attended the budget hearing could not provide the figures right away, prompting Manglona to call for a five-minute recess to allow MVA officials talk among themselves and put some numbers together.

When the hearing resumed, Alepuyo shared the figures they want to submit in their amended budget request.

Alepuyo said just in comparison, they currently issued a request for proposal for a desk audit as they feel that there are some positions at MVA that need to be updated.

"For example, for all incoming passengers into the CNMI, whether it be for tourists or residents, they have to fill out a form, like literally a piece of paper that is submitted to the Department of Customs, and two MVA staff have to go out there, collect them daily, and then scan the results, scan the

forms," Alepuyo said.

The MVA chair said they believe that they need to go paperless so that they could have that information readily available—not just for their office but also offshore offices and with the

municipalities that want to see the data of visitors coming in or even the Legislature prior to budgetary periods.

Alepuyo said they're hoping that a desk audit would reveal what positions are obsolete, what positions need to be updated, and how MVA can better serve the community to bring in more tourists by going paperless.

For comparison, she cited the Guam Visitors Bureau, which

has more employees and their annual budget for their employees alone is about \$3.3 million. Currently, she said, MVA has 34 employees with an annual budget of \$1.6 million.

Alepuyo said they anticipate the desk audit to reveal that they need more people with Information Technology experience and that would require them to pay more in salaries.

She cited as an example a notice for a job vacancy announcement they had for a graphic artist and the announcement indicates the salary. Alepuyo said 10 people applied, but none of whom had the minimum experience necessary and that's because they're not paying enough for graphic artist with the requirements that they need.

Manglona urged MVA to submit an amended budget proposal as his committee is expecting a revised budget from the administration come July 1.

"So if you can also provide the committee with your additional request come July 1, that would help the members review your request and see how we can assist," Manglona said.

Early this year, Iakopo said the passage of the fiscal year 2021 Budget Act provides an appropriation for the MVA of \$2.1 million, an 84% reduction from the original FY 2020 Budget Act.

Iakopo said this year's budget provides \$526,181 for personnel and the remaining \$1,671,230 for all others.



Alepuyo



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Your 2020 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2020 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Saipan, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2020/>

For Tinian, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2020/>

For Rota, go to <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2020/>

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

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Put fabot baba i tinattiya na web sites para un atan háfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda gi hálum i hânóm-mu gi durántin 2020 na sákkán para un ke'tungu mäs put i hânóm ni un gigimin.

Para Saipan, hãno para <https://www.cucgov.org/spn2020/>

Para Tinian, hãno para <https://www.cucgov.org/tin2020/>

Para Luta, hãno para <https://www.cucgov.org/rota2020/>

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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARFF BUILDING RENOVATION - REPACKAGED, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0011-28/30.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "TNI ARFF BUILDING RENOVATIONS - REPACKAGED, Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-28/30", and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., Friday, JUNE 25, 2021**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor the Arrival Building at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after the deadline on the same day.

The project, in general, consist of the TNI ARFF Building renovation and extension, and construction of new building. It includes demolition of existing ARFF Dispatch and first bay of the aforesaid building. A three-story building will be constructed at this site, and the remaining building will receive extension of frontage at Bay 2 and Bay 3. A new auxiliary building will be constructed adjacent to the building. Also, this project includes replacement of existing chain-link fence, additional parking and other associated works, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED U.S. DOLLARS (\$200.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Tinian Ports Manager's Office at the Tinian International Airport at **11:00 AM, Friday, June 11, 2021**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. This pre-bid is not mandatory and minutes of the pre-bid will be distributed to all parties who have picked up the DVD containing the plans and specifications.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least fourteen (14) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the DVD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications. It is the contractor's responsibility to inform CPA as soon as possible if there is a problem accessing the information on the DVD. Contractors are to verify all information provided using the table of contents for the specifications and the plan that shows the index of drawings.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **Four Hundred Thirty (430) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-entry of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 21, 2021

Gemkell supports homeless animals through fundraiser

GUAM—Gemkell Corp. showed its support for Guam's stray and homeless animals in May by holding a fundraiser for Guam Animals In Need at their Friends & Family Outlet location in the Tumon Sands Plaza.

Friends & Family Outlet customers were able to purchase brightly colored GAIN T-shirts, collars, leashes, and travel water bowls, which raised an amazing \$2,556.00 for GAIN. "We've never had a partnership quite like this and we were excited to try something new," said Alison Hadley, executive director of GAIN.

Gemkell not only donated 100% of the proceeds made from the GAIN item purchases, but they also held a strong social media presence promoting the items as well as GAIN's mission and GAIN's adoptable pets. "Community relationships such as this is so important for both non-profits and businesses. And we give many thanks to Gemkell and it's awesome team for thinking of us at GAIN and making all of this," said Hadley.

Gemkell met with GAIN's executive director to deliver the donation check and other donated goodies, and to of course exchange thanks for everyone's efforts. "On behalf

of Gemkell, we are pleased to support GAIN's objectives in sheltering and finding suitable homes for Guam's unwanted animals," said Gemkell CEO George Chiu. "All animals deserve an opportunity to be loved." (PR)

Clockwise from left: Joel Chabanne (red tee), general manager Operation; George Chiu (yellow tee), Gemkell CEO; Alison Hadley (navy tee), Guam Animals in Need executive director; Richard Hawes (blue tee), managing director; Pito Certeza (yellow tee) supervisor; Rieko Yamamoto (red tee), manager; and Miya Taylor (blue tee), general manager, Merchandising.

JHUN PULONGARIT/MERCHANDISING MANAGER





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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SHEFA deadline set

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance is reminding applicants that the deadline for the fall 2021 "application only" is July 1, 2021 (Thursday). (PR)

Free webinars on federal contracting

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free live webinars this month. Webinars run from 10am to 11:30am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the start of the webinar.

■ **June 22 – SBIR/STTR Programs** – Calling all inventors and innovators. The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs encourage small businesses to engage in Federal Research and Development that has the potential for commercialization. We will explain the programs and show how you can get involved.

■ **June 24 – Applying for a DUNS Number & Registering in SAM** – To sell your product or service to the Federal government, you need to get a DUNS number and register in SAM. We will show you how to easily and efficiently complete these registrations.

Register at <http://guamp-tac.com/news-and-events.php>. (PR)



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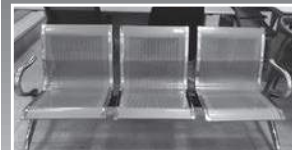
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

1 billion COVID-19 vaccinations not nearly enough



The Group of Seven, known as G-7, is an association that includes nations with some of the world's most advanced economies: Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and the United States. Last week, in response to President Joe Biden's announcement that the U.S. would provide 500 million COVID-19 vaccinations to poor countries around the world, G-7 officials in other nations collectively committed to supplying 500 million more. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson specifically pledged to supply 100 million shots, and Canadian officials were considering a similar commitment.

But United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres struck the appropriate tone on Friday when he welcomed the G-7 pledge—then said it was inadequate, given the vast toll the pandemic continues to take around the world, with nearly 3.8 million deaths and counting. “We need a global vaccination plan,” he said. “We need to act with a logic, with a sense of urgency, and with the priorities of a war economy, and we are still far from getting that.”

He's right. Worldwide, only about 460 million of the planet's 7.7 billion inhabitants have been fully vaccinated with stark differences from one country to the next. The progress in the U.S. and other affluent nations is far from the norm. In India and Africa—home to 2.6 billion people—there are tens of thousands of coronavirus infections officially reported each day and the actual number is likely higher. With so many millions of lives at risk, Guterres' call for a sense of urgency needs to generate results. The G-7's generosity should just be a start.

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To heal the ocean, we must act fast

For millions of years, Earth's climate has been fairly stable largely due to the ocean's role in mediating global temperature and driving our weather cycles, determining rainfall, storms, droughts and floods. Without much attention or support from humans, the ocean has been protecting every living being on this planet from the harmful effects of climate change by absorbing and redistributing heat across the planet through its currents.

Since the industrial revolution, the ocean, which covers 70% of our planet, has absorbed more than 90% of the excess heat from human-created global warming and approximately one-third of our carbon emissions. Over time, acting as this natural buffer has been increasingly detrimental to the ocean's health—contributing directly to rising sea levels, the acidification of the ocean, mass bleaching of coral reefs and habitat loss for countless marine species.

The science is clear: We've pushed the ocean beyond its limits. The planet is now in crisis mode.

We still have the opportunity to help the ocean heal, but we need to act fast. Through strategic, global cooperation and investment, we can build back our planet's resilience to the impacts of climate change. By conserving natural habitats, curbing pollution, ending our reliance on fossil fuels and accelerating the pace of progress toward more sustainable solutions, we can ensure a healthy future for the planet and generations to come.

In its first few months in office, the Biden-Harris administration has taken several important steps to address these issues, including establishing our first national conservation goal to conserve 30% of America's lands and waters by 2030. This goal is part of an international policy goal—30x30—that aims to protect at least 30% of the Earth's surface over the next decade. This science-driven target addresses our planet's rapid biodiversity loss and gives nature the opportunity to rebound and withstand a more severe and erratic climate.

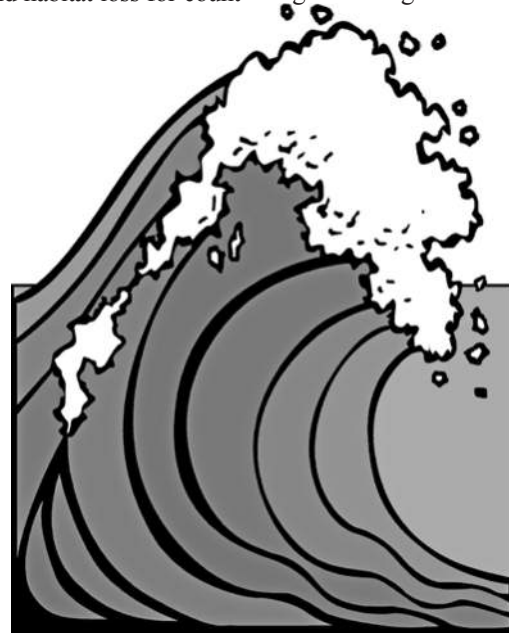
Here in the U.S., we've protected approximately 23% of our ocean waters—mostly in the Pacific. While investing in and strengthening the management of those protected areas, we urge the federal government to also focus on protecting ecologically rich critical habitats along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. The work

By **JENNIFER DRIBAN**
The Baltimore Sun

Jennifer Driban is chief mission officer at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. She wrote this for the Baltimore Sun.



to meet this target should be locally led, ensuring communities that have previously been marginalized are central stakeholders in determining how these areas should be protected and managed moving forward.



In April, the U.S. also pledged to cut our greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030. This is by far the most important thing we can do to support the ocean's health. Cutting greenhouse gas emissions will lessen our dependency on the ocean to absorb the heat created by human activity. The U.S. needs to catch up with other countries across the globe that have fully embraced renewable energy sources such as solar power and wind. These power sources are clean, efficient and represent a rapidly growing industry that will lead to substantial infrastructure job creation.

Last month, President Joe Biden released a federal budget that prioritizes protections for the ocean and makes critical investments in climate action and the low-income communities that disproportionately bear the impacts of

the climate crisis. These early steps by the Biden-Harris administration are reasons to be hopeful, but they will require legislative support to be successful. We urge Congress to support these historic investments in ocean and climate action and the many federal agencies that will implement this work.

At the National Aquarium, we wholeheartedly support nature-based climate solutions because they are wins for the triple bottom line: the planet, people and prosperity of global economies. For us, every day is a day to celebrate and advocate for our ocean. We hope you'll join us in the fight to protect our blue planet.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

When social media is a tool for hate

It's 2021, the pandemic is ongoing, although more and more people are now totally vaccinated. Many people are still flocking to the internet and social media in search of connection.

For some, it is an oasis. For others, a nightmare.

Woke folks are aware of #StopAsianHate, #BlackLivesMatter and #MeToo. These are hashtags meant to draw attention to the oppression of people based on race and gender.

As a lesbian of African descent, I have felt the weight of hate. Despite the ray of hope created by the guilty verdicts against Derek Chauvin for killing George Floyd, I am forever reminded of how far we have yet to go.

Most of what I personally see on social media is not specifically directed at me but comes rather in the form of posts that deny the existence of homophobia in general, allow for misgendering or deadnaming, spread misinformation and misquote famous folks under the umbrella of "straight pride" and are tainted with fear and hatred.

Personally, I don't want the triggers. I have never seen the entire video of Chauvin as he kills George Floyd; likewise, I do not dwell on online hate and harassment against anyone.

I am, however, grateful that others are examining online hate and harassment. For instance, the advocacy group GLAAD in May released its first "Social Media Safety Index." (To read the report, search GLAAD and Social Media Safety Index.)

The report's sad conclusion is that the big five players in social

media—Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram and TikTok—are not safe for LGBTQ+ folks and are riddled with online hate and harassment.

GLAAD utilized surveys conducted by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) in its "Online Hate and Harassment Report: The American Experience 2021."

The ADL surveyed 2,251 folks and found that 64% of LGBTQ+ folks experienced online hate and harassment. It was the highest percentage for any demographic category. The next highest were Muslims (46%), Jews (35%), Blacks (33%), Asian Americans and Latinx (both 31%).

Here are two examples of hate speech against LGBTQ+ folks: "Homophobia does not exist. It is a made-up word designed to make heterosexuals feel guilty about being normal." This post ran with a picture of a white family with two kids on the "Straight Pride World Wide" Facebook page.

A meme on Instagram: "Trans Women are Men; Trans Men are Women; Non-Binary is Fake Sh-t; Trans Rights are Not My F---ing Problem." It went on to warn: "If you are a n---er, k-ke, LGBTQ+ supporter, feminist, politically correct, globalist and communist ... this page is not for you."

The GLAAD report called on social media platforms to "act immediately to improve social media safety for LGBTQ+ people and for other historically marginalized groups. The safety of LGBTQ+ people on social media platforms is an urgent public safety issue."

By **KIKI MONIFA**

Tribune News Service

Kiki Monifa of Oakland, California, is editor-in-chief of BlackHistoryEveryday.com. This column was produced for The Progressive magazine and distributed by Tribune News Service.



There are individual recommendations for each platform regarding disinformation/misinformation. These include third-party fact-checking, improving the process of user reporting, bringing transparency to the system of enforcement, using qualified human moderators and diversifying the workplace, to name a few.

Of course, monetization is a key factor in whether and how the online media platforms address the issues of online hate and harassment.

"Tech companies show an incredible ability to adapt their algorithms to boost engagement and profits," the report quotes Ina Fried of Axios as saying. "They need to devote similar energy to creating algorithms that minimize hate and harassment—for their sake and for society's."

Here's to eliminating all hate speech and harassment, on and off line. We are not safe until all of us are safe.

The impact of gun violence on children

In 2017, when Tyshaun McPhatter of Washington, D.C., was seven years old, his father was shot and killed. Afterward, Tyshaun struggled with grief and had difficulty concentrating in school. His anger would occasionally ignite in outbursts.

John Woodrow Cox, a reporter for The Washington Post, wrote an article about Tyshaun, which was read by the mother of 8-year-old Ava Olsen of South Carolina. She shared it with her daughter, whose best friend had been shot on her elementary school playground in South Carolina during recess by a 14-year-old former student of the school.

Ava wrote Tyshaun a letter saying that she'd like to be his friend. Soon, these two children—Ava, a white girl from a small southern town, and Tyshaun, a Black boy from a big city neighborhood—began talking on FaceTime. They developed an unlikely, supportive relationship. When she told him that she'd had a hard week, and had been "mad and sad and stuff," he understood. Gradually, they opened up to each other about their struggles with pain, grief and rage.

Cox's eye-opening book, "Children Under Fire: An American Crisis," shares vivid stories about children who have witnessed school shootings or lost a loved one to other gun violence, and are left traumatized. They suffer from depression, nightmares,

angry outbursts, and have difficulty concentrating. They often need years of therapy and heavy medication.

Like an expert photographer, Cox captures personal stories up close, then zooms out to show the ways they fit into the bigger picture of how gun trauma has affected nearly 250,000 children on K-12 campuses since the 1999 Columbine High massacre.

Between 2010 and 2019, according to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, almost 30,000 children and teens were killed with firearms. Gun violence—including gun suicide—is the leading cause of death among Americans under age 20.

But these statistics do not include the many children, like Ava and Tyshaun, who weren't shot. They aren't usually recognized as victims of gun violence, even though they are dreadfully harmed.

That is Cox's point: to help these children, we need therapists, well-trained school counselors, and good mentors as role models.

"Children Under Fire" is a moving and beautifully written account of the lasting effects of school shootings and other gun tragedies on children. It provides an overview of the nearly \$3 billion school and student security industry, including its charlatans.

In the book, experts also explain how our nation can prevent these tragedies and help children who are suffering. They say that we need to do a much better job of keeping guns out of the

By **GRIFFIN DIX**

Progressive Media Project

Griffin Dix, Ph.D., is co-chair of the Oakland/Alameda County Brady Chapter. His 15-year-old son, Kenzo, was shot and killed in 1994. This column was produced for The Progressive magazine and distributed by Tribune News Service.



wrong hands.

All gun owners should safely store and lock all their guns. If they don't, they should be held accountable. We should pass a bill now in the Senate that would require a background check for virtually all gun sales and transfers, including at gun shows and online.

We need more federal funding for research on gun violence and its prevention, and we need to repeal the law that currently grants gun makers and dealers special immunity from most civil lawsuits even if they act irresponsibly in ways that cause death or injury.

Doctors shouldn't get rich from an unproven Alzheimer's drug

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval last week of Biogen Inc.'s Alzheimer's treatment aducanumab was a mistake based on weak evidence. The question now is just how much the U.S. will spend on a drug that may not help patients. No one but Biogen will like the answer.

Biogen priced its drug at about \$56,000 a year, which is exceptionally high for a medicine targeting a large population like the 6 million Americans believed to have Alzheimer's. But that's not all: A misguided bit of U.S. health-care policy will compound the burden of its price.

Medicare pays doctors a fee worth 6% of the cost of any drug administered in their office, creating a substantial financial incentive to choose more expensive medicines regardless of merit. The fee is supposed to compensate doctors for local variation in the price of medicines and storage costs. Instead, it's become part of a perverse feedback loop in which physicians favor expensive drugs, and drugmakers price aggressively to appeal to them and pad profits. Any logical system would encourage the opposite and limit unproven drugs like aducanumab, sold under the brand name Aduhelm. Instead, the U.S. will likely accelerate its use with hefty bonuses tied to its unjustifiable price. And Medicare Part B, which covers physician-administered medicines, cannot negotiate costs.

Aducanumab may accelerate spending growth and turn Medicare's fee structure into a bigger profit engine. While most ex-

pensive medicines are approved for relatively small and specific groups and treat acute conditions like cancer, Alzheimer's is an illness that can linger for years. The combination of price, an aging U.S. population, and the FDA's perplexing decision to put few limits on prescribing aducanumab leads to some pretty scary math.

Suppose 675,000 patients take aducanumab by 2026. That's a reasonable estimate—Biogen's drug is the first endorsed by the FDA as targeting a possible cause of the disease, and nearly 2 million Medicare beneficiaries take available medicines that only ease symptoms. In that case, annual spending on the drug could exceed the \$37 billion that Medicare spent on all Part B drugs in 2019. Well over \$1 billion would flow to physicians and hospitals from the add-on fee alone. Additional charges for patient visits, scans and infusions would further increase the cost to Medicare. And if doctors make the profitable and FDA-enabled choice to treat more advanced patients where the evidence of benefit is nonexistent instead of merely inconclusive (Biogen only studied the medicine in patients with mild Alzheimer's), the cost could soar further and faster.

What can be done about this? The status quo is so obviously harmful that both the Obama and Trump administrations attempted regulatory fixes. President Obama eventually gave up in late 2016 under pressure from lobbyists, and the Trump version skipped procedural steps and remains stuck in court.

Broader reform that helps Medicare negotiate prices and more

By **MAX NISEN**

Bloomberg Opinion






Max Nisen is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering biotech, pharma and health care. He previously wrote about management and corporate strategy for Quartz and Business Insider.

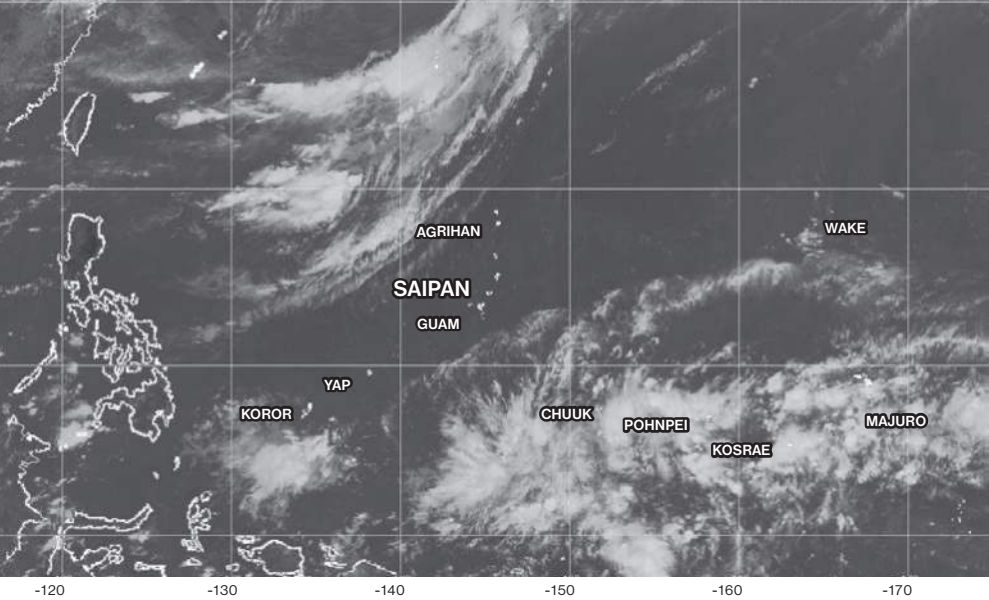


easily reject overpriced drugs has the best chance of averting a budget crisis, but a nearly deadlocked Senate stands in the way. Changing Part B's costly reimbursement policy is more achievable, though, because President Joe Biden can do it by executive action. Moving from a percentage of inflated prices to a flat fee would be the most straightforward way to shift incentives away from expensive medicines. Biden's administration could also consider value-based payments that encourage doctors to prescribe cost-effective medications backed by good evidence.

A payment shift wouldn't single-handedly stop aducanumab from becoming an underserving blockbuster. But it would help physicians look at the shaky evidence behind its approval instead of their pocketbooks.

The Weather

| 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|--|-----|
| TODAY | | SATURDAY | | SUNDAY | | MONDAY | | TUESDAY | |
|  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds around 10 mph. | | Mostly cloudy. A 30 percent chance of showers. | | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. | |
| 88° | 78° | 88° | 78° | 88° | 78° | 88° | 78° | 88° | 78° |
| YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE | | | | | | | | | |



PICTURE TIME: 8:12 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Partly cloudy skies and gentle trade winds are seen across the region this morning. A line of isolated thunderstorms along the axis of a weak trough faded as it approached the eastern coastal waters. Buoy data show calm seas of 1 to 2 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

| MICRONESIA | | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|---------------|---------------|------------|--------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorms | 87 79 °F | |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | 84 76 °F | |
| Yap | Partly cloudy | 87 72 °F | |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | 86 79 °F | |
| Pohnpei | Partly cloudy | 86 79 °F | |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | 85 79 °F | |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | 84 81 °F | |

| DAY | SUNRISE | SUNSET |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 5:47 AM | 6:48 PM |
| Saturday | 5:47 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Sunday | 5:47 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Monday | 5:47 AM | 6:49 PM |
| Tuesday | 5:48 AM | 6:49 PM |

| DAY | MOONRISE | MOONSET | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Today | - | 12:11 AM | 12:19 PM |
| Saturday | - | 12:51 AM | 1:13 PM |
| Sunday | - | 1:32 AM | 2:09 PM |
| Monday | - | 2:15 AM | 3:08 PM |
| Tuesday | - | 3:02 AM | 4:10 PM |

| AROUND THE GLOBE | | | ▲ ▼ °F |
|------------------|---------------|------------|--------|
| Auckland | Sunny | 57 47 °F | |
| Beijing | Thunderstorms | 88 76 °F | |
| Hong Kong | Partly cloudy | 87 82 °F | |
| Honolulu | Partly cloudy | 85 75 °F | |
| London | Partly cloudy | 76 60 °F | |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | 85 66 °F | |
| Manila | Mostly cloudy | 87 78 °F | |
| Melbourne | Partly cloudy | 55 41 °F | |
| Miami | Partly cloudy | 87 78 °F | |
| New York | Partly cloudy | 76 63 °F | |
| Osaka | Partly cloudy | 79 69 °F | |
| Paris | Sunny | 85 63 °F | |
| Pusan | Rain | 83 64 °F | |
| Rome | Sunny | 93 72 °F | |
| Salem | Sunny | 86 55 °F | |
| San Francisco | Partly cloudy | 67 55 °F | |
| Seoul | Rain | 83 67 °F | |
| Tokyo | Cloudy | 79 69 °F | |
| Washington, DC | Cloudy | 77 61 °F | |

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY | | | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 1:56 AM | High Tide | 2.10 | |
| 8:15 AM | Low Tide | 1.19 | |
| 12:48 PM | High Tide | 1.65 | |
| 7:34 PM | Low Tide | 0.46 | |

| FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 20, 2021 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|-------------|--|---------------------|---------|----------|-------------|--|
| DEPARTURES | | | | | ARRIVALS | | | | |
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | | |
| UA117 | 6:30am | 7:10am | 1, 3, 5, 6, | | UA174 | 4:50am | 5:31am | 1, 3, 5, 6, | |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | | |
| UA117/183 | 6:30am | 8:50pm | 5 via Guam | | UA184/174 | 9:50pm | 5:31am+1 | 5 via Guam | |
| GUAM-MANILA (MNL) | | | | | MANILA (MNL)-GUAM | | | | |
| UA183 | 7:05pm | 8:50pm | 5 | | UA184 | 9:50pm | 3:45am+1 | 5 | |
| UA183 | 7:15pm | 9:10pm | 1, 3, | | UA184 | 10:25pm | 4:10am+1 | 1, 3 | |
| LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i> | | | | | | | | | |

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

| SAIPAN TO ROTA | | | |
|----------------|-----------|---------|------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 1301 | 8:30AM | 9:00AM | Daily |
| 1302 | 11:00AM | 11:30AM | Daily |
| 1303 | 1:30PM | 2:00PM | Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri |
| 1304 | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | Daily |

| ROTA TO SAIPAN | | | |
|----------------|-----------|---------|------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 3101 | 9:30AM | 10:00AM | Daily |
| 3102 | 12:00AM | 12:30AM | Daily |
| 3103 | 1:30PM | 3:00PM | Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri |
| 3104 | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | Daily |

| ROTA TO GUAM | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 3401 | 12:15 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

| GUAM TO ROTA | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 4301 | 13:00 | 13:30 | Temporarily Unavailable |

| SAIPAN TO TINIAN | | | |
|------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 1201 | 7:00 | 7:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |

| | | | |
|------|-------|-------|----------------------------|
| 1202 | 8:00 | 8:15 | Daily |
| 1203 | 9:00 | 9:15 | Daily |
| 1204 | 10:00 | 10:15 | Daily |
| 1205 | 11:00 | 11:15 | Daily |
| 1206 | 12:00 | 12:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1207 | 13:00 | 13:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 1208 | 14:00 | 14:15 | Daily |
| 1209 | 15:00 | 15:15 | Daily |
| 1210 | 16:00 | 16:15 | Daily |
| 1211 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Daily |
| 1212 | 17:00 | 17:15 | Temporarily Unavailable |

| TINIAN TO SAIPAN | | | |
|------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------------|
| FLIGHT # | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 2101 | 7:30 | 7:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2102 | 8:30 | 8:45 | Daily |
| 2103 | 9:30 | 9:45 | Daily |
| 2104 | 10:30 | 10:45 | Daily |
| 2105 | 11:30 | 11:45 | Daily |
| 2106 | 12:30 | 12:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2107 | 13:30 | 13:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |
| 2108 | 14:30 | 14:45 | Daily |
| 2109 | 15:30 | 15:45 | Daily |
| 2110 | 16:30 | 16:45 | Daily |
| 2111 | 17:30 | 17:45 | Daily |
| 2112 | 18:30 | 18:45 | Temporarily Unavailable |

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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Divided 10th Circuit rejects citizenship right in US territories

Writing for a divided panel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, Judge Carlos Lucero ruled that the U.S. Constitution provides no guarantee of citizenship to people born in U.S. territories, reversing a 2019 district court decision holding that the Citizenship Clause of the 14th Amendment applied in states and territories alike.

Chief Judge Timothy Tymkovich wrote a short separate concurrence.

Judge Robert Bacharach wrote a 55-page dissent, setting forth how the Constitution's text, purpose, and history all "unambiguously" support rec-

ognizing that the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship extends to people born in U.S. territories.

"We are disappointed, and frankly surprised, by this result. Last year the Supreme Court made clear that the Insular Cases should not be expanded beyond their limited scope, yet here the 10th Circuit did just that to deny the right of citizenship to people born in U.S. territories," said Neil Weare, president and founder of Equally American, which advocates for equal rights in U.S. territories and serves as co-counsel to the Fitiseanu plaintiffs.

"We are considering our options moving forward in light of the 10th Circuit's decision to ignore the Supreme Court's recent guidance narrowing the application of the Insular Cases in U.S. territories."

Last June, in response to calls to overrule the Insular Cases, the U.S. Supreme Court stated in upholding the constitutionality of the Puerto Rico Oversight Board that "the Insular Cases should not be further extended," questioning their "continued validity" and calling them "much-criticized."

"The 10th Circuit's majority opinion fundamentally misun-

derstands the historical record when it comes to questions of citizenship in American Samoa," said Charles Ala'ilima, an American Samoan attorney who serves as co-counsel to the Fitiseanu plaintiffs. "It is not that American Samoans have a 'preference against citizenship,' or that citizenship is 'not wanted'—I take [American Samoa Delegate Uifa'atali] Amata and the government of American Samoa to simply be arguing that the question of citizenship should be decided by Congress, not recognized as a constitutional right. Indeed, American Samoa's traditional

leaders believed they became citizens the moment they transferred sovereignty to the United States through the Deeds of Cession in 1900 and 1904. When the United States informed our traditional leaders in the 1920s that citizenship was being withheld from American Samoans, they fought for decades to be recognized as full U.S. citizens, only to be repeatedly denied by Congress because of racism and opposition from the U.S. Navy. Today, concerns about U.S. citizenship in American Samoa largely turn on fears that it would threaten the preserva-

tion of our land and culture or limit self-determination, but these fears, as explained in Judge Bacharach's dissent and by other legal experts, are simply not supported by relevant legal precedent or the historical experience of other territories."

In terms of next steps, the Fitiseanu plaintiffs have 45 days to consider making a request for review of the panel's decision by the full 10th Circuit, a process known as "en banc" review, or 90 days to consider seeking review from the U.S. Supreme Court, a process known as a petition for certiorari. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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AGENDA

*** June 24, 2021 ***

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's 2nd Floor Main Conference Room at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan. However, pursuant to Governor Torres' Executive Orders and Directives on the ongoing threat from the COVID-19 pandemic and limited space available, access to the Commission's meeting will also be available via videoconference.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes: May 27, 2021

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS:

- Report by the Chairman
- Report by the Executive Director

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:

- Casino Licensee – Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI") – Updates:
 - Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR").
 - Status of IPI's request to the Governor for extension of the IGF construction deadline per CLA Amendment #6.
 - IPI Personnel Matters:
 - Status of Employee Payroll
 - Status of unpaid payroll & severance pay for employees already off-island
 - Others

B. Annual Audit Reports and IPI Financial Matters

C. Other Miscellaneous Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS: None

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- House Bill 22-47: "To allow Senatorial Districts to establish and regulate internet gaming; and for other purposes". Request for comments received on June 15, 2021. Deadline for comments is June 29, 2021.
- Request for Documents. Letter from Representative Edwin K. Propst, Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Gaming, dated June 15, 2021 (Title 1, Sections 1308-1309).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Consult with Legal Counsels
- Report by the CCC Divisions (Compliance, Audit and Enforcement)
- CCC Personnel Matters

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this Agenda and take action on the amended Agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the meeting via videoconference, please contact the Commission at info@cnmicasinocommission.com for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Chairman



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS ALONG THE ROUTE 302 NAFTAN ROAD

CRM APPLICATION NO:
PROJECT:

APPLICANT:

SMS-2021-033

ROUTE 302 (NAFTAN ROAD)

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

The Department of Public Works (DPW), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is proposing to construct road improvements along Route 302 (Naftan Road) on the Southeastern side of Saipan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

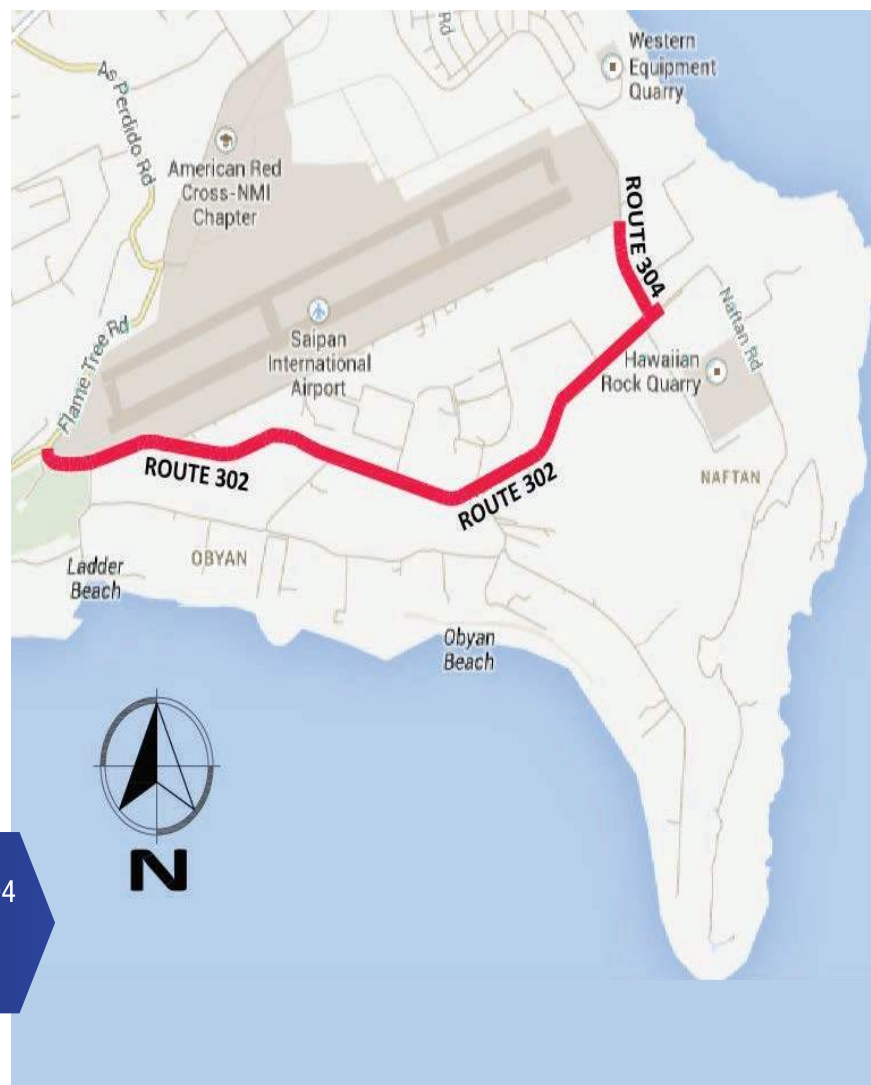
The Route 302 (Naftan Road) Improvement project includes Two (2) Lanes paved road with paved shoulder/bike lane on each side of the roadway. This project loops in the southern-most part of the island and traverses along the perimeter fence of the Saipan International Airport runway intersecting with Route 304 (Flame Tree Road) having a distance of approximately 2.50 miles.

The public and island visitors would benefit the improved roadway access connecting Dandan Village and nearby historical sites in Ladder and Obyan beaches.

The public hearing for this project will be announced at a later date

Written comments can be submitted by mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, sent by fax to 664-8315, or emailed to permitting@dcrm.gov.mp.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Route 302 Road Improvement project.



**PROPOSED ROUTE 302
(NAFTAN ROAD) & ROUTE 304
(FLAME TREE ROAD)
IMPROVEMENTS
Total Length = 2.50 miles**

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary
Department of Public Works

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Duties and Responsibilities – Chief Accountant/Accounting Manager

- The Accounting Manager/Chief Accountant is responsible for all areas relating to financial reporting. This position will be responsible for developing and maintaining accounting principles, practices and procedures to ensure accurate and timely financial statements.
- Supervises a team of staff accountants and is responsible for managing the team to ensure that work is properly allocated and completed in a timely and accurate manner.
- Address tight deadlines and a multitude of accounting activities including general ledger preparation, financial reporting, year end audit preparation and the support of budget and forecast activities.
- Work closely with the General Manager with day to day operations.
- Obtain and maintain a thorough understanding of the financial reporting and general ledger structure.
- Ensure an accurate and timely monthly, quarterly and year end close.
- Ensure the timely reporting of all monthly financial information.
- Assist in the daily banking requirements.
- Ensure the accurate and timely processing of positive pay transactions.
- Ensure the monthly and quarterly Bank Compliance activities are performed in a timely and accurate manner.
- Supports budget and forecasting activities.
- Collaborates with the other department managers to support overall department goals and objectives.
- Monitors and analyzes department work to develop more efficient procedures and use of resources while maintaining a high level of accuracy.
- Advises staff regarding the handling of non-routine reporting transactions.
- Responds to inquiries from the General Manager and Board of Directors regarding financial results, special reporting requests and the like.
- Ensure a clean and timely year end audit.
- Supervise the general ledger group to ensure all financial reporting deadlines are met.
- Assist in development and implementation of new procedures and features to enhance the workflow of the department.
- Prepare accounts and tax returns.
- Administer payroll and controlling income and expenditure.
- Audit financial information.
- Compile and present reports, budgets, business plans, commentaries and financial statements.
- Analyze accounts and business plans.
- Provide tax planning services with reference to current legislation or other changes to tax structure.
- Prepare financial forecasting and risk analysis.
- Provide training to new and existing accounting staff as needed.
- Handle personnel issues relating to staff conflicts, absenteeism, performance issues, etc.
- Work with each direct report to establish goals and objectives for each year and monitor and advice on the progress to enhance the professional development of staff.
- Support special projects and workflow process improvements.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting
- Five (5) years experience in Accounting or Finance
- Must have knowledge in Sage, QuickBooks Pro Accounting and Microsoft Office programs including Excel and PowerPoint.

WORKING HOURS: Full Time

The employer will pay or exceed the prevailing wage as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor and will be based on qualifications.

Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to:

HR Office
Herman's Modern Bakery Inc.
P.O. Box 500002 Saipan, MP 96950
By Facsimile: (670) 288-1726; or by e-mail: hr@hermansbakery.com

WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Filmah Buenaflor will serve as MCS' new vice principal

Mount Carmel School recently announced that long-time educator Filmah Buenaflor will serve as vice principal for the 2021-2022 school year, succeeding former vice principal Bobby Nelson Baldazo.

This upcoming school year will be Buenaflor's 11th year of service at MCS. As a teacher, Buenaflor played a significant role in many programs that have helped expand the quality of education at the school. In addition to the math and computer courses she teaches, Buenaflor serves as the chairperson of the mathematics learning community and teaches the Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles course for juniors and seniors.

For the last two years, Buenaflor served as the faculty representative for MCS and helped advocate and mobilize initiatives that supported the needs of the faculty. Additionally, Buenaflor served as the co-chairperson for the school's Cognia Learning Capacity Domain and has contributed to the successful acquisition of grants.

Grants co-authored by Buenaflor include a summer bridge program/enrichment

program for the math learning community and a math learning after-school tutoring program.

Buenaflor has 17 years of experience in education, 11 of which she has devoted to MCS. Presently, Buenaflor holds a bachelor of science degree in computer science from Ateneo de Naga University and recently earned her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Concordia University-Portland.

"Mrs. Buenaflor's years of experience and commitment to the school made her an ideal candidate to serve as vice principal. She was instrumental in making APCSP available to MCS students and I am certain she will play a key role in the development of more academic programs," said outgoing vice principal Baldazo.

Acting MCS president Frances Taimanao also shared that Buenaflor's continuing efforts to support and improve STEM curriculum made her an ideal candidate. "One of the primary reasons we also selected Mrs. Buenaflor as vice principal is due to her commit-



Buenaflor

ment to researching new ways to improve our STEM curricula. Many of our students have developed an interest in STEM disciplines and we hope to foster their interest into potential career paths as they prepare for college."

Buenaflor expressed her sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve as vice principal and what she hopes to accomplish in her position, "I firmly believe that under the leadership of Mrs. Frances T. Taimanao with the eager zealous support of Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, the board of directors headed by chairman Ben Babauta, and with our phenomenal teachers, parents, and other stakeholders that we will be able to increase student engagement and achievement through our programs."

Buenaflor has many ideas to improve the quality of education at MCS, which include continuously improving the school culture, updating the curriculum, and equipping teachers with the necessary skills and tools to enhance instructions based on the collected data. **(PR)**



DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

1st Floor, Building 1300, P.O. Box 501000 C.K., Saipan, MP 96950

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT- Disaster Supplemental

HOME RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

RE-ANNOUNCEMENT (Assistance available while funds last)

Purpose: To address disaster related needs and service delivery in the form of home rental and utilities assistance for eligible families who were directly displaced by Typhoon Mangkhut or Super Typhoon Yutu.

Funding for CSBG Home Rental Assistance Program will be made available for:

- Saipan
- Tinian
- Rota

Registration package can be picked up from any of the following locations:

- Kagman Community Center
- Division of Youth Services-Admin. Office in Capitol Hill
- Rota DYS Office
- Tinian DYS Office

Electronic copy of the application can be downloaded from: <http://www.dys.gov.mp> or <https://www.dcca.gov.mp>

Application Submission: Completed applications can be dropped off at any of the locations indicated above or via email below. Please note that any incomplete package will not be entertained.

For more information, please call:

Jennifer Tanaka, 237-1017, via email at jtanka@dys.gov.mp
Nina Nekaifes at 237-1018, via email at nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp

This program is made possible by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20) Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.NMIJudiciary.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

DEPUTY CLERK II

for Drug Court Announcement # JVA21-020

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Presiding Judge and under the direct supervision of the Superior Court Clerk of Court on Saipan. The candidate will perform work with wide latitude for the exercise of independent judgment and taking action in accordance with established policies, practices and court procedures. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Receive, review and record documents filed for hearing;
- Review documents presented by counsels and Drug Court Staff for accuracy, proper form, and conformance with court rules and decisions for approval and signature by judges;
- Track cases taken under advisement, ensure updates of same and provide periodic reports to the Clerk of Court and effected judges;
- Set the court calendar and adjust the same to maximize courtroom time and meet unusual situations;
- Prepare bench warrants, subpoenas, summonses and other related documents for issuance;
- Assess fines, receive and account for monies, issues receipts, prepare deposit slips, and make disbursements when ordered or directed;
- Interpret and disseminate information, law, policies, and procedures governing the hearing of cases;
- Update and maintain case dockets, judgment books and case files;
- Maintain a listing of all drug court cases and provide data for reporting purposes;
- Assist with the certification of records in cases appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court;
- Serve as a courtroom clerk for the drug court, which includes but is not limited to the following: ensuring courtroom readiness for proceedings, attending court sessions, administering oaths to witnesses, operating electronic recording equipment, listing all relevant portions of proceedings on a log, receiving, marking and assuming responsibility of all introduced evidence, and performing translation during proceedings;
- Serve as a member of the CNMI Drug Court Team; attend staffing and trainings, maintain confidentiality rules, provide background information for all potential participants, make recommendations at initial and progress staffing, prepares and coordinates execution of orders, and maintain information on case management software.
- Act as a liaison between the Office of the Clerk of Court and the Drug Court Program;
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Should also have a Bachelor's degree in business administration or related field from an accredited university or college; or four years of equivalent work experience; or a combination equivalent of relevant education and experience; AND A minimum of four (4) years of experience in legal, law enforcement, court administrative or related work. Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain professional records, and uphold office policies. Must be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel

Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid drivers' license and operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Salary range will be \$23,000 - \$25,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS Application forms are available at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 203 on the second floor, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on weekends and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice, P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818 | Cell. (670) 783-8592 | Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@NMIJudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.nmijudiciary.com>



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 | Gualo Rai Center, Saipan | TEL. NO. 664-8300 | FAX NO. 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



NOTICE OF APPLICATION As of June 18, 2021

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION | LOCATION | TYPE | STATUS | APPLICANT | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION | LOCATION | TYPE | STATUS |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|---|---------------|------------------------|
| 1. Marine Tech Saipan, Inc. dba S2 Club | 05/13/2021 STLR-2018-X-130-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 21. Le Grand Bleu, Inc. | 05/24/2021 STLR-2018-X-174-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction & Snorkeling | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan & Tinian | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/14/2021 |
| 2. Crystal Star Corp. | 05/17/2021 SLR-2021-016-R2 | Kayaking | Saipan Lagoon (Oleai-Beach Area) | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 05/17/2021 | 22. Mark Arnold L. Santos dba Mac's Marine | 05/25/2021 SLR-2018-X-112-R4 | Banana Boat, Parasailing, Sea Walker & Lagoon Tour | Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha Island | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 3. Office of the Governor | 05/17/2021 PSLR-2021-030 | Installation of Airstrip & Temporary Docking Area | Pagan, Northern Islands | Shoreline, Lagoon & Reef | Approved* 06/09/2021 | 23. Selfish Saipan, Inc. | 05/25/2021 SLR-2019-X-038-R3 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction | Laulau Bay, Obyan Beach, & Grotto, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 4. Sakura CNMI Corp. dba Sakura Marine Sports | 05/17/2021 SLR-2018-X-084-R4 | Personal Water Craft & Wakeboarding | Fiesta Resort Beach Area, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 24. Windsurfing Saipan, Inc. | 05/25/2021 SLR-2018-X-118-R4 | Windsurfing, Stand Up Paddleboard, Kayaking, & Snorkeling | Hyatt Regency, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 5. Sakura CNMI Corp. dba Sakura Marine Sports | 05/17/2021 SLR-2018-X-083-R4 | Snorkeling, Kayaking & Banana Boat | Fiesta Resort Beach Area, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 25. Aquaville, Inc. | 05/25/2021 SLR-2018-X-146-R4 | Banana Boat & Seawalker | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 6. Seahorse, Inc. dba Seahorse Tour | 05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-090-R4 | Personal Water Craft, Para-Sailing & Banana Boat | Saipan & Managaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 26. Aquaville, Inc. | 05/25/2021 SLR-2018-X-146-R4 | SCUBA Tour Operation/ Instruction & Hydrobob | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 7. Saipan Aqua World Inc. | 05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-094-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour & Seawalker | Saipan & Managaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/10/2021 | 27. Auto Marine, Inc. | 05/25/2021 SLR-2018-X-113-R4 | Banana Boat, Parasailing, & Seawalker | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 8. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc. | 05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-091-R4 | Banana Boat | Saipan & Managaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/10/2021 | 28. Island Marine Sports, Inc. | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-110-R4 | Parasailing Operation | Designated Parasailing Zone, Saipan & Mañagaha Island | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 9. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc. | 05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-092-R4 | Personal Water Craft | Beach Area North of Grandvrio, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 29. Asia Pacific, Inc. dba Asia Marine Sports | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-111-R4 | Banana Boat & Snorkeling Tour Operation | Saipan Lagoon & Mañagaha | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 10. Tao Tao Marianas, Inc. | 05/18/2021 SLR-2018-X-093-R4 | Parasailing | Saipan & Managaha | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/09/2021 | 30. BSEA Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-076-R4 | Banana Boat & Snorkeling Tour Operation | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 11. Roy Alexander | 05/18/2021 SS-2021-031 | Extension of Residential Home | Oleai, Saipan | Shoreline | Approved* 06/04/2021 | 31. BSEA Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-077-R4 | Parasailing Operation | Designated Parasailing Zone, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 12. J & K Marine Sports, Inc. | 05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-102-R4 | Personal Water Craft w/ Accessory Use (Jetovator) | Beach Areas Fronting Kanoa Resort | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 32. Macro Energy, Inc. | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-123-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction | Grotto, Laulau Bay & Obyan Beach | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 13. J & K Marine Sports, Inc. | 05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-069-R4 | Banana Boat, Snorkeling & Wakeboarding | Saipan Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 33. Marianas Trekking LLC | 05/26/2021 SLR-2018-X-101-R4 | Kayaking, Stand Up Paddle Board, Snorkeling, & Canoeing | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 14. World Corporation dba Wave Jungle | 05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-160-R4 | Kayaking, Snorkeling & Stand Up Paddle Board Windsurfing & Floaters | Beach Areas Fronting Saipan World Resort | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/10/2021 | 34. Thank You Saipan Corporation | 05/27/2021 SLR-2018-X-072-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction, Seawalker, & Snorkeling | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 15. Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc. | 05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-068-R4 | Personal Water Craft, Banana Boat & Parasailing | Saipan Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 35. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC | 05/28/2021 SLR-2018-X-139-R4 | Personal Watercraft (PWC) & Snorkeling | Beach Area Fronting Fiesta Resort, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 16. CNS, Inc. | 05/19/2021 SLR-2018-X-0135-R4 | Personal Watercraft, Kayak Snorkeling, Stand Up Paddle Board | Beach Area Fronting Grandvrio Resort, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/10/2021 | 36. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC | 05/28/2021 SLR-2018-X-140-R4 | Banana Boat & Wakeboard | Saipan & Mañagaha Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 17. IRE Inc. dba Blue Palms Dive Service | 05/19/2021 RLR-2018-X-0611-R4 | Marine Sports/SCUBA Diving | Rota Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 05/19/2021 | 37. Ocean Sports Corporation | 05/28/2021 SLR-2018-X-116-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 18. United Front Co., Ltd. | 05/21/2021 SLR-2018-X-085-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction & Snorkeling | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 38. Diving Shop Light House Inc. | 05/28/2021 SLR-2018-X-169-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/15/2021 |
| 19. Pheonix Enterprises Inc. dba Pheonix Marine Sports | 05/21/2021 SLR-2018-X-144-R4 | Hobie Cat Sailing & Snorkeling Tour Operation | Saipan Lagoon | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 39. JB International Holdings Limited dba Uncle J Dive | 05/28/2021 SLR-2020-X-013-R3 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction | Laulau Bay, Obyan Beach, & Grotto, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |
| 20. Interpacific Resorts (Saipan) Corporation dba Pacific Islands Club | 05/21/2021 SLR-2018-X-106-R4 | Kayaking, Stand Up Paddle Board, Snorkeling, Windsurfing, & Sailing | Lagoon Areas Fronting Pacific Island Club, Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Approved 06/11/2021 | 40. Marianas Seas Adventure, Inc. | 06/01/2021 SLR-2018-X-071-R4 | SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/ Instruction | All Designated Dive Sites on Saipan | Lagoon & Reef | Under Review |

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Business

PIC reopens its waterpark this Saturday

After almost five months of being closed to the public, Pacific Island Club Saipan in San Antonio is reopening its waterpark this Saturday.

It will resume operations every Saturday and Sunday, adding to the resumption of buffets and relaxing for happy hour at PIC.

“The timing is perfect because we want to celebrate the summer season with the com-

munity. ... We will resume the full-scale PIC waterpark, which includes pools, the giant slide, Point Break and the Lazy River,” said Sales and Marketing manager Katy Hung.

The pools, including the main pool, lap pool, and kid’s pool, will be open from 10am to 6pm. As for the Giant Slide, Point Break, and Lazy River, these facilities will open in the afternoon from 2pm to 5pm.

PIC Waterpark will also have a special local promotion, which is \$20 for adults and \$15 per child.

A Waterpark Combo is available, which is brunch at Magellan Restaurant and access to the waterpark for only \$40 per adult and \$25 per child.

This Sunday, PIC will have a Father’s Day special—just add \$5 to brunch cost and you get to enjoy food and have ac-



Pacific Island Club Saipan's water slide is back to excite family and friends
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

cess to the waterpark.

According to Hung, they are opening the waterpark due to numerous requests from the community. “We have been receiving requests from the local community to open the waterpark especially for the summer time and when school is on a break,” she said.

For more information, call (670) 234-7976 (Tuesday to Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 8am to 1pm. *(Bea Cabrera)*



Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 23, 2021 | 5:00 PM
Commonwealth Zoning Office, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Bldg.
Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666
www.cnmizoning.com

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda

B. Public Hearings:

1. **Conditional Use Application #2020-6772** – SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm is proposing to construct a 66’ (L) x 39’7” (W) x 12’ (H) fully concrete building structure for its “Cannabis Farm” Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 039 L 50/039 L 51 in the village of Obyan. This area is zoned as Rural.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2020-7205** - Adefta Lot, LLC dba Marianas 420 Café is proposing to construct a 95’ (L) x 95’5” (W) x 13’4” (H) fully concrete building structure for its “Cannabis Lounge” Use inclusive of one (1) Restaurant floor area. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot 2003-4-1/Lot 343-R1 in the village of Chalan Laulau. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

C. Adjournment

In an effort to provide public access to this meeting during this pandemic, the Commonwealth Zoning Board will host this meeting via:

Zoom Video Communications

Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/6853007492>
Meeting Code: 685 300 7492

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Adefta Lot, LLC dba Marianas 420 Café

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Adefta Lot, LLC dba Marianas 420 Café is proposing to construct a 95’ (L) x 95’5” (W) x 13’4” (H) fully concrete building structure for its “Cannabis Lounge” Use inclusive of one (1) Restaurant floor area. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot 2003-4-1/Lot 343-R1 in the village of Chalan Laulau. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 23, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Commonwealth Zoning Office,
2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 22, 2021. Please send written comments via e-mail to zoningboard@cnmizoning.com, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm is proposing to construct a 66’ (L) x 39’7” (W) x 12’ (H) fully concrete building structure for its “Cannabis Farm” Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 039 L 50/039 L 51 in the village of Obyan. This area is zoned as Rural.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 23, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Commonwealth Zoning Office,
2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 22, 2021. Please send written comments via e-mail to zoningboard@cnmizoning.com, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
PHONE: (670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMI-PORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CPA-RA-003-17

The Commonwealth Ports Authority’s (CPA) is a public corporation and autonomous agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). In accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations, CPA hereby seeks the services of qualified consulting firms to provide Construction Management Services for the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport Drainage Improvements, CPA-RA-003-17.

The project is being funded by CPA. This project is in accordance with CPA’s Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA’s Administration Office, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Electronic copies may be made available upon written request to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA’s Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmports.com.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at the CPA Administration Office or emailed to wprater@cnmports.com by no later than 5:00 p.m., local time, Friday, June 11, 2021.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: 5/20/21

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
PHONE: (670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMI-PORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PARKING LOT EXPANSION CPA-TA-001-20

The Commonwealth Ports Authority’s (CPA) is a public corporation and autonomous agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). In accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations, CPA hereby seeks the services of qualified consulting firms to provide Construction Management Services for the Tinian International Airport Parking Lot Expansion, CPA-TA-001-20.

The project is being funded by CPA. This project is in accordance with CPA’s Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA’s Administration Office, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Electronic copies may be made available upon written request to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA’s Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmports.com.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at the CPA Administration Office or emailed to wprater@cnmports.com by no later than 5:00 p.m., local time, Friday, June 11, 2021.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: 5/20/21



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-002

DESIGN/BUILD SERVICE FOR THE 3-LEVEL PARKING GARAGE

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) is soliciting sealed proposals from prospective firms to provide Professional Services for Architectural and Construction of CHCC’s 3-Level Parking Garage Project.

This procurement is in accordance with the CHCC procurement Regulations. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with CHCC §140-80.1-210 (Competitive Sealed Proposals of the CHCC Procurement Regulations).

The Request for Proposals and Scope of Work is available on June 4th, 2021, online at www.chcc.gov.mp, navigate to the RFP tab on the left navigation bar, click on the URL for this **RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-002**.

Inquiries regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing via email to Ms. Cora P. Ada, Director of Procurement at cora.ada@chcc.health no later than June 25th, 2021.

Selection Criteria:

Technical criteria

- i. 25% Experience and Qualifications in similar or related projects
- ii. 25% Technical approach to meet deliverables and meet timelines of the project. Must be financially stable and must have adequate equipment and tools.
- iii. 25% Project Approach - demonstrate understanding and ability to meet requirements
- iv. 25% Cost Proposal

The successful proposer will be subjected to a responsibility determination in accordance with CHCC Procurement Regulations §140-80.1-245.

Please email your proposal to Ms. Corazon P. Ada, Director, CHCC Division of Procurement and Supply, at cora.ada@chcc.health or submit five (5) hard copies including original copy, **no later than 10:00 AM Chamorro Standard Time (CHST) on July 5th, 2021** at the CHCC Main Campus Office. Proposals received after the date and time will not be accepted



Please note submission instructions:

- All submissions must include the **RFP21-CHCC/FACILITY-02** and Project Title in the email subject.
- All documents must be submitted in Adobe PDF Format.
- All pages of your proposal must include the RFP # and Project Title in the header, plus page number in the footer.

Failure to follow the instructions regarding the submission of RFP responses may result in the CHCC’s choice to disqualify such proposals.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21-047

Opening Date: June 16, 2021
Closing Date: June 30, 2021

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| POSITION TITLE: | Meter Reader |
| DEPARTMENT: | Billing Department/Administration |
| LOCATION: | Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA |
| ANNUAL SALARY: | \$16,742.00 - \$22,602.00 per annum, Non-Exempt |
| CONTRACT: | Not Contracted |
| POSITION(S): | Four (4) |

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief of Administration or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Required to work in the field obtaining utility meter readings for electric and water consumption meters, deep well or outflow meters and other similar devices and entering data in hand-held computers or devices.
- Perform work orders for customer service verifications and investigations. Reports findings and recommends solutions and updates customer accounts.
- Performs research on account discrepancies or unusual meter readings and consumption. Reports irregularities or reasons for fluctuations.
- Prepares reports of findings, deficiencies and recommendations to assist in investigations and billing resolutions as needed.
- Inspects, repairs, replaces or disconnects utility meters and equipment and services.
- Assigns routing numbers for customer locations.
- Monitors meters for damaged or unauthorized connections and tampering.
- Assist in reviewing cycles, work orders, and readings in preparation of bill processing.
- Assist in the processing and printing of customer bills and delivery of bills and notices.
- Assist other divisions with mapping projects, locations, and other requirements.
- Assist other divisions with mapping projects, locations, and other requirements.
- Operates and maintains use of government vehicles; conducts basic vehicle inspections to ensure they are in proper working order and recommends service and maintenance of vehicles.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS Diploma.



Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical principles; Recordkeeping principles; Safety principles and safe work practices; Applicable equipment used in field utility services (based on assignment); Modern office technology.

Skills in: Coordinating services with other departments or resources; Inspecting and operating field equipment related to utility usage (based on assignment); Performing basic mathematical calculations; Researching account information or discrepancies; Preparing and maintaining files, forms, reports and records; Copying and scanning documents; Updating, maintaining and preparing reports and spreadsheet tracking documents; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing: Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 048

Opening Date: June 16, 2021
Closing Date: June 30, 2021

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| POSITION TITLE: | Administrative Assistant |
| DEPARTMENT: | Tinian Administration |
| LOCATION: | Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands, USA |
| ANNUAL SALARY: | \$16,742.00 - \$22,602.00 per annum, Non-Exempt |
| CONTRACT: | Not Contracted |
| POSITION(S): | One (1) |

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Tinian Resident Manager or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Gathers, assembles, updates, processes and/or distributes forms, documents, requests, invoices, mail and/or records; reviews information for completeness, accuracy and content; resolves discrepancies; prepares information for processing and disseminates and/or maintains documentation.
- Provides reception duties and responds to request for information; provides customer support with completing forms and answering routine questions; refers to inquiries as required to the appropriate resource; and advises management of issued for resolution.
- Enters data in systems or on documents; organizes and maintain files, records, logs, and/or timesheets, ensure file integrity and retention of records and documentation according to established procedures.
- Retrieves and/or prepares reports, correspondence, documents, deposits, account adjustments and other related documentation.
- Monitors supplies, materials and/or equipment inventory; prepares requisitions replenishment of supplies or required services; monitors order status, coordinates deliveries and services with vendors; and may provide pick-up or delivery of documents or items as needed.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.



Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS.

Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Cash handling practices (based on assignment); Customer service principles; Basic filing and recordkeeping principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Basic inventory and supplies maintenance practices; Specialized equipment relevant to area of assignment; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards (based on assignment); Providing customer services, Filing, organizing and maintain records and files; Preparing basic reports, correspondence and documentations; managing time and prioritizing requests; Providing attention to detail; Proofreading documents for accuracy; Identifying errors and making corrections; Reviewing and researching account information; Maintaining confidentiality of records and information; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with co-workers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing: Valid Driver's License with appropriate class.
All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 051

Opening Date: June 17, 2021
Closing Date: July 01, 2021

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| POSITION TITLE: | Trades Assistant |
| DEPARTMENT: | Power Distribution |
| LOCATION: | Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, USA |
| ANNUAL SALARY: | \$16,742.00 to \$22,602.00 per annum, Non- Exempt |
| CONTRACT: | Not Contracted |
| POSITION(S): | One (1) |

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Rota Resident Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of Rota Power Distribution Division.

Duties:

- The Trades Assistant assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities.
- Servicing equipment by disassembling, assembling, cleaning and calibrating.
- Assisting with equipment/vehicle inspections.
- Monitor and maintain pump fuel; Operating incinerators; Operating oil and water separator pump.
- Servicing and preparing oil filters.
- Responding to customer calls.
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing obstacles.
- Fabricating materials for required parts.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.



Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education.
Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing/Certification: Valid U.S. Driver's License with appropriate class;

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: You may submit your CUC Employment Application and/or resume at the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, from Monday to Friday, 7:30am – 4:30pm. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota can drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration office. Application and resume can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21-052

Opening Date: June 17, 2021
Closing Date: July 01, 2021

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| POSITION TITLE: | Trades Assistant |
| DEPARTMENT: | Tinian Water Division |
| LOCATION: | Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands, USA |
| ANNUAL SALARY: | \$16,742.00 - \$22,602.00 per annum, Non -Exempt |
| CONTRACT: | Not Contracted |
| POSITION(S): | One (1) |

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Tinian Resident Manager or his/her designee.

Duties:

- Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities.
- Performs daily well and pump station facility maintenance, cleaning and monitoring;
- Assists plumbing and chlorine maintenance crew;
- Utilizing digging equipment for locating and repairing leaks;
- Repairing and securing pressure reducer valves, main vales, service lines and laterals, and booster pumps;
- Assisting with meter installation and repair;
- Collecting water samples.
- Must be able to lift objects weighing at 40 lbs. or more.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS Diploma.

Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing: Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

Off The Wall

Lobster diver is injured after being caught in whale's mouth

BARNSTABLE, Mass. (AP)—A commercial lobster diver who got caught in the mouth of a humpback whale off the coast of Cape Cod on Friday morning said he thought he was going to die.

Michael Packard, 56, of Wellfleet, told WBZ-TV after he was released from Cape Cod Hospital that he was about 45 feet (14 meters) deep in the waters off Provincetown when “all of a sudden I felt this huge bump, and everything went dark.”

He thought he had been at-

tacked by a shark, common in area waters, but then realized he could not feel any teeth and he wasn't in any pain.

“Then I realized, oh my God, I'm in a whale's mouth...and he's trying to swallow me,” he said. “And I thought to myself OK, this is it—I'm finally—I'm gonna die.” His thoughts went to his wife and children.

He estimates he was in the whale's mouth for about 30 seconds, but continued to breathe because he still had his breathing apparatus in.

Then the whale surfaced, shook its head, and spit him out. He was rescued by his crewmate in the surface boat.

His sister, Cynthia Packard, originally told the Cape Cod Times that her brother broke a leg, but he said later that his legs are just bruised.

Charles “Stormy” Mayo, a senior scientist and whale expert at the Center for Coastal Studies in Provincetown, told the newspaper that such human-whale encounters are rare.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Florida town accidentally sells municipal water tower

BROOKSVILLE, Fla. (AP)—A small town in Florida accidentally sold its water tower in a blundered real estate transaction. A businessman purchased a municipal building underneath the city of Brooksville's water tower last April for \$55,000 with the goal of converting it into a gym. However, when Bobby Read went to the county to get an address for his new business location, he was told the parcel he bought included the entire water tower site, according to the Tampa Bay Times. Luckily for the town, Read was willing to give it back. County records show he transferred the water tower back to Brooksville

through a warranty deed last month. The town of 8,500 residents is located 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of Tampa. “I don't know where the blame falls here,” said Blake Bell, a city council member. “We're council members and we rely on the city manager. We assume that he has done his due diligence.” City Manager Mark Kutney blamed the use of a bad legal description for what happened. The city's redevelopment agency director resigned after the accidental sale.

Message in a bottle travels across the Atlantic Ocean

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A Portuguese teenager has found a message in a bottle that traveled at least 2,400

miles from a Vermont teenager. Christian Santos, 17, was spearfishing in the Azores when he found a crumpled plastic bottle that was tossed into the sea near Rhode Island in 2018, The Boston Globe reported. Santos' mother, Molly Santos, posted a photo of the note on Facebook asking for others to share the post in hopes of finding the writer to share how far the message traveled. The note inside of a Powerade bottle was written in orange marker on a notecard that reads, “It is Thanksgiving. I am 13 and visiting family in Rhode Island. I am from Vermont.” The note included an email address to respond. Molly Santo said that she sent an email to the address, but never received a response.

Science & Technology

TECH Q&A: How to store camera photos where you want them

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**
STAR TRIBUNE

Q: When I had Windows 7, photos from my camera would be downloaded to my PC. But Windows 10 wants to put my camera photos on OneDrive, Microsoft's online storage service. How can I get Windows 10 to just put the photos on my PC instead of on OneDrive?

A: You can avoid using OneDrive simply by changing your preferences in the Windows 10 Control Panel. But first consider the benefits of using or not using OneDrive.

■ If you use OneDrive, here is what happens: The photos are imported from your camera and stored in the OneDrive folder on your PC. The contents of that folder are then copied to the OneDrive online storage service (you are limited to 5 gigabytes of free online storage.) The good news is that your pictures are backed up online in case your PC is lost or damaged. The bad news is that the online storage is continuously linked to the PC folder. If you accidentally delete something from the PC, it disappears online as well. (For details, see tinyurl.com/teaeke44).

■ If you don't use OneDrive, here's what happens: The photos are imported

from your camera and stored only in the PC's Pictures folder. However, you can make your own backup by occasionally copying the Pictures folder to a USB flash drive. Because the Pictures folder and flash drive aren't continuously connected, accidentally deleting a photo on the PC won't affect what's stored on the flash drive.

If you still want to stop using OneDrive, open Control Panel and, in the search box at the upper right, search for “Autoplay settings.” In the next menu, click on “change default settings for media or devices.” In the resulting menu, find “camera storage” and below it the box labeled “choose a default.” Click the arrow on the box, and in the resulting drop-down menu choose “import photos and videos [photos].”

Last week, I incorrectly told Michael Davis of Shoreview, Minn., that his iPhone 5C would work on AT&T's 4G LTE network once the old 3G network is shut down in February 2022.

While the 5C will work on the data portion of AT&T's LTE data network, it won't be able to make phone calls. As a result, Davis needs to get a new phone that can handle both data and voice. (For a list of phones that are fully compatible with the

LTE network—current as of May 14—see tinyurl.com/yfhn3xt).

Verizon Wireless, which plans to shut down its 3G network no later than December 2022, also said some existing phones won't work once its 3G network is gone (see tinyurl.com/uuheujad).

■ ■ ■
Q: My 10-year-old HP PC runs Windows 10 and McAfee antivirus, but it is incredibly slow, especially when loading things like pictures and Adobe PDF files. Is there anything I can do to speed up the PC, or do I need to buy a new one?

A: A slow 10-year-old computer should be replaced. It has outlasted its useful lifetime. Conventional wisdom says that any PC will be useful for three years. Depending on its component parts and upgrades, a well-maintained desktop PC may have a useful lifetime of five to eight years. The useful lifetime of a laptop is said to be three to five years, largely because its components are not as upgradeable.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Star Tribune of Minneapolis. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

INVITATION FOR BIDS [IFB]

NMHC IFB 2021-011

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME:
July 20, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Purchase and Installation of Windows and Typhoon Shutters for Mihaville Estates Housing Units & Purchase and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Koblerville Estates Housing Units

Project package will be available on **June 18, 2021**, on the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net by clicking on the “Procurement” menu tab.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held via video teleconferencing on July 01, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Bidders will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net by clicking on the “Procurement” menu tab. Bidders are encouraged to email the Procurement Officer of their intent to participate in the pre-bid conference via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net at least one day before the conference. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors



Office of the Public Auditor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Website: <http://www.opacnmi.com>
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Opening Date: 6/18/21 | Closing Date: 7/30/21 |
| <u>POSITION</u> Audit Manager | <u>EXAMINATION NO.</u> OPA-21-004 |

For more information, please visit our website at www.opacnmi.com or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Garapan.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

INVITATION TO BID

ITB21-CHCC/CGC-BHRP-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2021 • TIME: 10:000AM (CHST)

“LEASE OF VEHICLES”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & S SUPPLY



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP21-CHCC/CGC-BHRP-002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2021 • TIME: 10:000AM (CHST)

“OFFICE LEASE”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & S SUPPLY



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP21-CHCC/HEMODIALYSIS-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 5TH, 2021 • TIME: 10:00PM (CHST)

“DIALYSIS CENTER – HEMODIALYSIS & PERITONEAL DIALYSIS CONSUMABLE/DISPOSABLE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

Life & Style

Neighbor intrudes on backyard oasis

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: I am a 40-something single mother of two teens. A 24-year-old neighbor with a young daughter moved in next door a couple years ago after her divorce. She recently joined the workforce, and being a single working mother for the last year and a half has been a difficult adjustment for her. When she sees me outside, she comes over to vent. She seems incapable of just giving a friendly wave and going about her day.

I like to garden in peace. She has actually come into my yard, sat on my lawn and complained while I continued weeding. She prefaces it by telling me she doesn't want advice; she just wants to vent. Abby, I have lived her life—with a lot less support—and at this point, I value my alone time. I don't want to listen to her woes.

I find myself sneaking around my yard trying to avoid her. Today, I saw her setting up a trampoline in her backyard. It's close to my yard and right outside my dining room window. How do I communicate to her that I don't want a visitor when I'm working in my yard? I know her feelings will be hurt. I've already tried to set boundaries by not initiating conversation and not inviting her over. Help!

PRIVATE IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR PRIVATE: Tell your neighbor she needs to find another person to vent to because your gardening activities are the way you cope with your own problems, and you prefer to do that without company. Then suggest she find a comparable activity for herself that may serve the same purpose. She may not like hearing it, but you will be free.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has withdrawn himself from my family. I sense my niece resents it. She's 53 and has a teenage son. I believe she thinks we don't see each other because we don't love them. I can't explain what's going on with my husband to her. I want to explain to my family and maybe make excuses for his behavior, but honestly, I don't think it will change much.

I realize COVID-19 has kept families apart, and this may not be a good time to try to become closer. I have expressed my feelings to my husband, but it never turns out well. He lost his mom two years ago, and his depression has gotten worse. He wants nothing to do with my family. They don't deserve it, but things are good between the two of us apart from this issue. Must I choose sides? What can I do?

CHOOSING SIDES IN CANADA

DEAR CHOOSING: Unless there is something important that you omitted from your letter, your husband's behavior may be connected to the loss of his mother. Do not "choose sides," but also do not allow him to separate you from your family. Stay in touch as much as you can, and once the quarantines are finished, visit with them. Explain your husband's absence by letting your relatives know WHY your husband is acting this way and that he needs compassion and understanding, not judgment.

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Utah 'Real Housewives' star seeks fraud case dismissal

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—"Real Housewives of Salt Lake City" star Jen Shah and her defense attorneys have asked a federal judge in New York this week to dismiss charges against her in a fraud case because officers allegedly coerced her into waiving her Miranda rights when she was arrested in Utah.

Shah, 47, and her assistant have been accused in a telemarketing scheme that federal prosecutors say took advantage of hundreds of "vulnerable, often elderly, working-class people," The Salt Lake Tribune reported. They both pleaded not guilty to multiple charges.

Shah faces multiple counts of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conspiracy to commit money laundering.

Prosecutors said the scheme enticed people to invest in an online "business opportunity," and then sold them tax preparation or website design services, despite many of the people not owning computers.

Prosecutors accused Shah and her assistant of selling lists of potential victims that were generated from telemarketing "sales floors" in Utah, Arizona, Nevada and elsewhere. The sale floor owners allegedly worked with telemarketing operations in New York and New Jersey.



AP
In this March 30, 2021, file photo, «The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City» star Jen Shah leaves federal court in Salt Lake City.

Shah was arrested March 30 by New York detective Christopher Bastos in Salt Lake City after she received a perplexing phone call. She believed the call was tied to an order of protection she has out against a man who once attacked her and was convicted of multiple felonies in New York. After the call, she received another call from Bastos believing it was also tied to the protective order.

Bastos, who told Shah to pull over as she was driving to a shoot in Utah, arrested her as a suspect in the telemarketing fraud case. But as Shah asked whether she was going

to jail, she told officials that Bastos made her believe she "might be in danger, and that the police might be there to help me."

Shah's attorneys are arguing that she was coerced, and pointed out that Bastos knew her history with the man, who prosecutors said was also involved in the scheme with Shah and her assistant.

"Although Ms. Shah waived her Miranda rights, she did not do so voluntarily, but rather as a direct result of law enforcement deception and trickery calculated to overpower her will," her attorneys said.

Her attorneys have also said that prosecutors have not provided enough information for the case to proceed, arguing that she is accused of participating in a scheme with "unspecified co-conspirators in unspecified places and selling unspecified products and services to unspecified victims, while laundering the money through unspecified accounts with unspecified financial institutions at unspecified times over an eight- or nine-year period."

No apology: Tavis Smiley makes comeback bid after PBS firing

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Three years after workplace misconduct allegations cost veteran TV and radio talk-show host Tavis Smiley his job and a national forum, he's ending his silence.

Smiley, who continues to deny the claims of unwanted sexual behavior that led PBS to drop his long-running show, is attempting to rebound with the purchase of a Los Angeles radio station that will offer a Black and progressive perspective on the city and nation.

Sidelined during a period of landmark racial upheaval, Smiley decided to make his own opportunity with reformatted station KBLA 1580 Los Angeles. It debuts with a preview on Saturday, the Juneteenth holiday commemorating when the last enslaved African Americans learned they were free.

"While I was watching this racial reckoning last summer, it was so clear to me that people were being heard to some degree, but there were no African American-owned platforms where people had their voice on a regular basis," Smiley said. The media can lose

interest when protests stop, he said, but the issues "that matter to us don't go away."

He was also chafing at the isolation.

"It's frustrating when you're used to being on the air every day somewhere, (and) people are hearing your voice in this country, seeing your face, for as many years I've been doing this," he told The Associated Press. But there was an upside: introspection, and "a lot" of it, as he put it.

"It allows for growth. It allows for strengthening relationships with family and friends," Smiley said. "So in some ways, I think I'm probably a different person than I was four years ago."

He did not reevaluate his workplace behavior because there was no cause to, he said, and again rejected any allegations of misconduct. After losing in court last year in a breach-of-contract suit over his firing, he's appealing the verdict that required about a \$1.5 million payment from Smiley to PBS, which countersued him.

"I have no idea why what happened to me happened,"

he said. "This Me Too moment happened at a time and in a way where it was very difficult, almost impossible, to put forth any other narrative, no matter how truthful that narrative was."

While acknowledging what he called "consensual" dates with co-workers before he joined PBS, "I have never harassed anyone," Smiley said. He alleged that the public TV service reached back into his work past to find claims of misbehavior that he called false, and labeled the investigation sloppy and biased.

In its court filings, PBS cited witnesses' allegations that Smiley subjected subordinates to lewd language and unwanted sexual advances and encounters, with six women describing misconduct claims in court testimony. The women have not been publicly identified.

"Let me be very clear: I support the Me Too movement" and covered women's rights issues for years on his shows, he said. "I will not let you falsely accuse me of anything, and win, lose or draw, my name and my integrity is all I have."

The ESPYS returning to New York, Anthony Mackie to host

NEW YORK (AP)—The ESPYS are returning to New York next month for the first



Mackie

time since 1999, with actor Anthony Mackie hosting the show that honors the year's top athletes and sports moments.

The show will air July 10 live on ABC from The Roof-top at Pier 17 at the Seaport.

Last year's show was virtual because of the coronavirus pandemic. It previously was held in Los Angeles for 18 years. The show's first seven editions were held in New York, either at Madison Square Garden or Radio City Music Hall.

ESPN said Wednesday the show will follow return-to-work guidelines, as well as relevant city, state and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rules.

Mackie is best known for his roles in Marvel's "The Falcon and the Winter Soldier" and "The Hurt Locker."

Pastimes

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By Bryan Basset



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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

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15 Right away
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22 Nile bird
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Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 6-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Meaghan Rath, 35; Blake Shelton, 45; Carol Kane, 69; Paul McCartney, 79.

Happy Birthday: Concentrate on what's important to you. Stay away from situations that confuse and cause uncertainty. Carefully pick and choose the people you associate with. Focus on using your skills to excel. Revenge will stand between you and achieving your dreams. Let go of the past and head into the future with optimism, honesty, and hope. Your numbers are 4, 11, 16, 20, 27, 32, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Clear up any uncertainty you face quickly and intelligently. Ask questions, summarize what's required to reach your objective and finish what you start. An energetic outing will help you get back to nature and the meaning of life. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Tie up loose ends and enjoy the finer things in life. Plan to spend time doing something you can enjoy with someone you love. A change will be revitalizing and encourage you to do things that has an impact on your community. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Persuasive tactics may work initially, but they will eventually affect your reputation if you don't deliver. Protect your integrity by making a point to stick to the truth. Put in the necessary time to do the best job possible. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put your energy where it will do some good. Concentrate on home improvement projects that will encourage you to be more

aggressive when earning a living and handling your financial future. Fitness and romance are in your best interest. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Share your plans with someone special. The interest you receive will increase your enthusiasm and help you complete what you set out to do. Make a commitment that honors your long-term goals, and take action to ensure you reach your destination. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Tidy up loose ends, and make changes that will give you the freedom to do things that bring you joy. An open mind will lead to prospects far beyond your initial plans. Put your energy where it will do some good. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Think, research and turn your plans into a reality. A passionate approach will lead to new beginnings and a stable future. Refuse to let anyone mess with your mind. Trust facts, and do what feels right and best for you. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make the most with what you've got. Expand your plans to include fixing up your space to accommodate your goals. Creating a place of learning and enlightenment will help you as well as others. Personal growth and love are on the rise. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take one step at a time. Don't rush into something under the advice someone offers. Do your due diligence and sort through the pros and cons before you venture down a different

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
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path. Choose intelligence over risk. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll gravitate toward change and adventure. Someone or something unique will spark your imagination and encourage you to engage in a lifestyle that will disrupt your emotions before you encounter stability. Live life. Learn as you go. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You are heading in the right direction. Follow your heart, and you'll discover your true calling. Weather the storm; the calm that follows will lead to the happiness you desire. Intelligent decisions will result in added stability. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Expand your interests, take on a new hobby and engage in pastimes that allow you to use your attributes to build strength and courage. Put more into meaningful relationships, and you will find peace of mind and tranquility. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, convincing and appealing. You are insightful and sensitive.

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/18

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

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Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them. Circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

OLYMPIA DUKAKIS (1931-2021)

Solution: 9 letters

C A S T O R I N I E G A T S R
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I I C L O U D B U R S T E T L
A K N A T P I R T I R I P S O
N E D R A G C I N A T O B M M

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6/18

Botanic Garden, Castorini, Charlie, Christina, Clever, Cloudburst, Critic, Film, Frasier, Jeffrey, Joan, Lectures, Librarian, Lilith, Louis, Lowell, Lucky, Mafia, Mike, Molly, Moonstruck, Mother, Obie, Peter, Rise, Role, Roll, Simpsons, Sisters, Sonnet, Spirit, Stage, Star, Steel Magnolias, Stefan, Teacher, Theater, Train, Trip Tank, Video, Zorich

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Hawks rally from 26 points down, stun 76ers in Game 5



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Trae Young ran off the court clapping and yapping toward the few Hawks fans that braved the Philly crowd and stuck around and were rewarded with a comeback victory for the ages.

"I was just showing love to the ATL fans that showed up," Young said, "and we're going to need them to show up Friday for us."

Oh yes, there will be a Game 6 in the Eastern Conference semifinals, with the upstart Hawks—not top-seeded Joel Embiid and the Sixers—playing for a spot in the next round.

"If you don't believe, you got to believe now," Hawks coach Nate McMillan said.

How could they not? Atlanta fans can roll off a lengthy list of infamous collapses in its collective sports history.

Here was a comeback to remember.

Young was fouled on a 3-pointer and hit all three free throws with 1:26 left to cap a 26-point rally and send Atlanta on its way to a 109-106 victory Wednesday night in Game 5.

The Hawks won in Philadelphia for the second time in the series and can advance to the conference final for the first time since 2015 with a victory Friday night in Atlanta.

"We knew what we had to do and we had to do it in a hurry. No quit," McMillan said.

Young scored 39 points and added to a postseason where he has become a breakout star.

"We keep fighting no matter what the score is. I'm proud of this team," Young said. "We have confidence in each other."

Embiid scored 17 points in an 8-for-8 first quarter and seemingly had the Sixers on their way toward a romp with

a 26-point lead in the first half. They still led 87-69 at the end of the third before they collapsed.

Consider:

Embiid scored 39 points and Seth Curry had 36 and they were the only two Sixers to score a field goal in the second half.

The Hawks outscored them 40-19 in the fourth on 16 of 22 shooting.

The Sixers still had a 97.5% chance of winning Game 5 with 4:23 remaining.

Had 10 of 15 turnovers in the second half.

"We got too comfortable," guard Ben Simmons said. "We didn't play the way we should be playing."

Lou Williams, Danilo Gallinari and Young opened the fourth on a huge run against the Sixers' second unit and kept attacking once 76ers coach Doc Rivers was forced to put the starters in and save the lead.

Gallinari hit a 3 that made it 87-76 and Embiid sprang from his cool down seat behind the basket and ran to the scorer's table to check back in the game. He instantly scored and pushed the lead back to 13.

Didn't matter.

The big shots kept coming for the Hawks — Williams buried a 3 that made it an 11-point game — and Young kept hitting his floaters and his fouls shots.

Williams and Young each scored 13 points in the fourth.

"It'll be one of those things where I'll look back when he's a Hall of Famer, he's an established superstar in this league and I can say I was part of that process and I worked with this gentleman," Williams said.

Simmons, along with Embiid the cornerstone for the Sixers, missed free throw after free throw much as he has for most of the postseason that



sped up Atlanta's comeback.

Young's floater brought them within two and then he leaned into a 3-pointer and was fouled by Matisse Thybulle. Young, taunted all series by Sixers fans, calmly stepped to the line and buried all three shots. And so it was, 105-104 Hawks.

The Hawks led by 26 points in a Game 1 victory and won Game 4 at home Monday.

Gallinari scored 16 points, Williams had 15 points and John Collins had 19 points and 11 rebounds.

"We found a hot hand in Lou and found a rotation that works and stayed with it," McMillan said. "They showed their true character."

Simmons was 4 for 14 from the free throw line and even Embiid missed two big ones down the stretch. Simmons missed two with the Sixers up 104-96 and the Hawks came right down and scored. He is 22 for 66 from the line in the playoffs (33%).

"When Ben makes them, we get to leave him in," Rivers said. "When he doesn't, we can't. That's just the way it is."

Simmons said his free throw woes are "mental."

Embiid is basically playing on one good leg as he plays through torn cartilage in his right knee. The injury got the best of him in Game 4. He couldn't get any lift in his shots—notable in a blown layup late that should have won the game—and his 0-fer in the second half left Philly wondering how hard he could go in Game 5.

He went hard—but it wasn't enough. And the Sixers will need to force Game 7 if they want to play at home again.

"We'll be back here for game 7," Rivers said. "I believe that."

Clippers 119, Jazz 111

In Salt Lake City, Paul George scored 37 points and grabbed 16 rebounds to lead the Los Angeles Clippers to a 119-111 victory over the Utah Jazz

in Game 5 of their Western Conference semifinals series Wednesday night.

Marcus Morris scored 25 points and Reggie Jackson added 22 for the Clippers. Los Angeles won its third straight game to push the top-seeded Jazz to the brink of elimination. The Clippers shot 51% from the field with Kawhi Leonard in the lineup.

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 32 points — while making nine 3-pointers — to lead Utah. Donovan Mitchell added 21 points. Rudy Gobert chipped in 17 points and 11 rebounds. Six players scored in double figures for the Jazz.

Utah and Los Angeles will play Game 6 on Friday in Los Angeles.

The Jazz trailed the entire fourth quarter after making just six baskets in the third quarter. Utah cut the deficit to 100-97 when Mitchell converted a 3-point play with 5:46 left. Jackson answered with back-to-back baskets to squelch a

AP
Atlanta Hawks' Trae Young (11) goes up for a shot against Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid (21), Matisse Thybulle (22) and Seth Curry (31) during the second half of Game 5 in a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Wednesday, June 16, 2021, in Philadelphia.

Jazz comeback. Utah could draw no closer after that point.

The Clippers played their first postseason game without Leonard after he suffered a knee injury in Game 4. Mike Conley missed his fifth straight game for the Jazz while rehabbing a strained hamstring.

Los Angeles seized an early 10-3 lead after Terence Mann took a steal in for a layup to cap a string of four baskets on four straight possessions. Los Angeles could not hold the advantage for long after Utah started cooking from the perimeter.

The Jazz made a franchise record 10 3-pointers and shot 13-of-18 from the field overall in the first quarter. Bogdanovic led the way, going 6-of-7 from outside, tying an NBA postseason record for most 3-pointers made in a single quarter. He scored the last four outside baskets on four straight possessions to put Utah up 32-26.

Utah kept up the barrage in the second quarter and went 17-of-30 from 3-point range before halftime. The Jazz built up a 10-point lead during the quarter, going up 56-46 when Gobert tipped in a layup to punctuate a 13-2 run.

Los Angeles weathered the storm and surged back ahead early in the third quarter. The Clippers opened the second half on a 23-9 run capped by back-to-back threes from George and Mann and took an 83-74 lead midway through the quarter.




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DeGrom pulled early, Mets bullpen finishes 6-3 win over Cubs



NEW YORK

(AP)—Jacob deGrom was pulled from a second

straight start with an arm injury, this time leaving after three perfect innings with right shoulder soreness, but the New York Mets bullpen stepped up to finish a three-hitter in a 6-3 win over the Chicago Cubs on Wednesday night.

One start after being pulled from a gem against San Diego with flexor tendinitis in his right arm, deGrom went directly down the clubhouse tunnel after finishing the third against the Cubs.

DeGrom said initial tests ruled out a serious issue, but he planned to get imaging and more observation Thursday.

The right-hander struck out eight of the nine batters he faced and lowered his ERA to 0.54.

Sean Reid-Foley (2-0) relieved deGrom and allowed one run over two innings. Anthony Rizzo ended the bid for a combined perfect game or no-hitter by homering with one out in the fourth.

Kevin Pillar opened the scoring with an RBI double off Robert Stock (0-1) in the second and homered in the fifth.

Astros 8, Rangers 4

In Houston, Jose Altuve homered twice and made major league history by hitting a leadoff homer one game after belting a walk-off grand slam, leading Houston past Texas.

Altuve connected again with a shot to the train tracks atop left field with two outs in the eighth inning to extend the lead to 8-4 and give him his fifth career multi-homer game. Astros rookie Chas McCormick also hit two home runs on a night when Houston went deep a season-high six times.

Altuve's leadoff drive was one of a career-worst four homers allowed by Jordan Lyles (2-5) that put the Astros up 5-1 early. McCormick, Martín Maldonado and Myles Straw also connected off Lyles, who began his career in Houston.

Houston starter Zack Greinke (7-2) permitted four hits and three runs in 5 2/3 innings.

Red Sox 10, Braves 8

In Atlanta, Christian Arroyo slugged a pinch-hit grand slam in the seventh inning to give Boston the lead and the surging Red Sox beat Atlanta to move within one game of first place.

Boston recovered after blowing a 6-3 lead. Freddie Freeman hit a go-ahead homer for Atlanta in the sixth after Dansby Swanson's three-run shot tied the game in the fifth.

The Red Sox are one game behind AL East-leading Tampa Bay.

Adam Ottavino gave up a run-scoring double to Ronald Acuña Jr. in the ninth. Acuña was thrown out at third and Ottavino struck out Freeman for his fourth save.

The Red Sox loaded the bases against Shane Greene (0-1) in the seventh. Greene struck out Bobby Dalbec for the second out of the inning before left-hander A.J. Minter



New York Mets starting pitcher Jacob deGrom reacts during the first inning of a baseball game against the Chicago Cubs Wednesday, June 16, 2021, in New York.

gave up Arroyo's homer.

Yacksel Rios (1-0) recorded one out in the sixth after he was added to the roster before the game.

Reds 2, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Tyler Mahle tied his career high with 12 strikeouts, Tucker Barnhart drove in the go-ahead run with a double in the seventh inning, and Cincinnati finished a three-game sweep of Milwaukee.

Cincinnati has won six straight and 11 of 13. The Brewers dropped three straight for the first time in nearly a month and were swept for the third time this season. Milwaukee totaled nine hits and four runs in the series against the Reds.

Mahle (7-2) allowed three hits and a pair of walks over six innings. Brad Brach, Sean Doolittle and Lucas Sims completed the five-hitter, with Sims getting the last four outs for his seventh save.

Milwaukee's Freddy Peralta (6-2) struck out six over six innings without walking a batter.

Rockies 8, Padres 7

In Denver, pinch-hitter Charlie Blackmon singled home the winning run in the ninth inning and Colorado shook off a monster homer by Fernando Tatis Jr. to beat stumbling San Diego.

Tatis hit a 477-foot homer, the longest of his career and his NL-leading 21st. He also doubled, but the Padres lost for the 13th time in 17 games.

The teams combined for five home runs and 23 hits and neither starter made it out of the fourth inning.

Trevor Story drew a leadoff walk in the ninth from Austin Adams (2-1), stole second and scored when Blackmon hit a 1-2 pitch into center field.

Carlos Estévez (2-0) walked the first two batters in the ninth and second baseman Brendan Rodgers' throwing error allowed the Padres to tie it on a sacrifice fly.

Athletics 8, Angels 4

In Oakland, Calif., Ramón Laureano hit a home run and made a homer-robbing catch in his return from the injured list, and Oakland rallied past Los Angeles for its sixth straight win.

Shohei Ohtani homered for the second straight day, giving him 19 for the Angels. He also neatly bunted against the shift for a single and stole his team-leading 10th base, a day before he was scheduled to start on the mound.

Laureano, who missed 17 games with a strained right hip, perfectly timed his jump to reach over the fence and catch Justin Upton's flyball in the fourth.

In the bottom of the fourth, Laureano connected for his 12th homer, cutting the Angels' lead to 4-1.

Angels reliever Tony Watson (2-3) faced six batters and didn't record an out, surrendering six earned runs on five hits and a walk.

Burch Smith (1-0) went 1 1/3 scoreless innings.

White Sox 8, Rays 7, 10 innings

In Chicago, Yasmani Grandal hit a game-ending RBI single in the 10th inning and Chicago took two of three from Tampa Bay in a matchup of division leaders.

José Abreu hit his 12th homer of the season for the White Sox, who've won 10 of 13.

Yandy Díaz and Mike Zunino homered for the Rays.

Abreu moved automatic runner Andrew Vaughn to third with a groundout and Grandal brought him home with a sharp liner to the right field wall off Pete Fairbanks (1-1).

Ryan Burr (1-0) worked a scoreless 10th for Chicago.

Yankees 3, Blue Jays 2

In Buffalo, N.Y., Gerrit Cole pitched eight effective innings, pinch-hitter Gary Sánchez connected for a two-

run homer and Aroldis Chapman dodged trouble in the ninth as New York Yankees held off Toronto.

Sánchez's 10th homer of the season in the seventh gave the Yankees back-to-back wins behind key pinch hits, following Clint Frazier's go-ahead double in the eighth inning of Tuesday's 6-5 victory.

Chapman allowed hits to the first two batters in the ninth, putting runners at second and third, but escaped for his 14th save. Cole (8-3) held the Blue Jays to four hits.

Marcus Semien and Cavan Biggio homered for Toronto, which has lost three straight and five of seven. Ross Stripling (2-4) limited New York to three hits and two walks over 6 1/3 innings and tied a season high with nine strikeouts.

Indians 8, Orioles 7

In Cleveland, Aaron Civale became the first pitcher with 10 wins this season and José Ramírez homered and drove in three runs as Cleveland extended Baltimore's road losing streak to 18 games.

César Hernández had a two-run triple and Ramírez had two hits and scored twice for the Indians, who moved a season-best nine games over .500. Cleveland seized control 6-3 in the third inning by scoring five runs off Keegan Akin (0-2).

The Orioles matched the eighth-longest road losing streak in major league history and are approaching the record of 22, shared by the 1943 Philadelphia Athletics and 1963 New York Mets.

Civale (10-2) allowed five runs in five innings, striking out two. Emmanuel Clase worked the ninth for his 11th save.

Nationals 3, Pirates 1

In Washington, Paolo Espino got his first major league win at age 34, Josh Bell hit a two-run homer against his former team and Washington beat

Pittsburgh for a three-game sweep.

Espino (1-2) allowed three hits in five scoreless innings. He struck out two, walked none and threw 39 of his 53 pitches for strikes.

Washington has won four straight, matching its longest winning streak of the season. The Pirates extended their skid to 10 games.

Brad Hand got the final five outs for his 13th save.

Yan Gomes hit his seventh homer of the season in the second inning off Chase De Jong (0-1).

Tigers 6, Royals 5

In Kansas City, Mo., Willi Castro homered during a three-run rally in the seventh inning and Detroit beat Kansas City for a three-game sweep.

The Royals have lost six in a row and 11 of 12. Kansas City starter Brady Singer was removed after just three innings with tightness in his pitching shoulder.

Tarik Skubal (4-7) allowed three runs on six hits in six innings, striking out seven. Michael Fulmer earned his fifth save in six chances.

Adalberto Mondesi hit a home run in his first at-bat since returning from the injured list. Salvador Perez also connected for the Royals, hitting his 17th of the season.

Greg Holland (2-2) gave up three runs while getting just one out.

Cardinals 1, Marlins 0

In St. Louis, Yadier Molina grounded an RBI single down the third base line in the ninth inning and St. Louis edged Miami to sweep the season series.

Molina's eighth career regular season walk-off hit came with one out and sent Miami to its fourth straight loss.

Paul Goldschmidt reached on an error by shortstop Jazz Chisholm Jr. to start the ninth. After Matt Carpenter walked with one out, Molina singled off Marlins starter Sandy Alcantara (4-6).

The Cardinals went 6-0 against Miami this year for their first season sweep over the Marlins.

Ryan Helsley (4-4) and Andrew Miller combined for two scoreless innings of relief. Cardinals starter Johan Oviedo pitched a career-high seven scoreless innings.

Twins 7, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Nelson Cruz hit a three-run homer against his former team, rookie starter Bailey Ober struck out six and Minnesota beat Seattle.

Cruz's second-deck shot to left field in the fifth inning made it 6-0 and helped snap the Twins' three-game losing streak. Ryan Jeffers followed with a solo homer two batters later.

Jorge Polanco led off the game with a double against Mariners starter Justus Sheffield (5-6) and had three hits and three runs by the fifth inning, all against the left-hander.

Reliever Caleb Thielbar (1-0) won on the day he returned to the bullpen from the 10-day injured list. Twins pitchers struck out the Mariners 11 times.

Shed Long Jr. and Ty France had RBI singles for Seattle.

Rabago puts coaches thru paces as coaching clinic resumes

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Around 20 coaches took part in drills conducted by FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago last Tuesday at the Agape Gymnasium along Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

It appeared to be a grueling session for the CNMI's volleyball coaches, but the rewards are invaluable as they can now transfer the knowledge they learned from the Guam national volleyball coach to

the volleyball players in their respective clubs in schools.

Northern Mariana Islands



Volleyball Association president Somia Quan said she's just happy that Rabago is now able to conduct a coaching clinics for a week in contrast to the last time he was on Saipan.

"This trip is another segment of the FIVB National Team Coaches development grant that we are executing. We are hoping to get more people in that would like to be volleyball coaches as well as introducing volleyball drills,



MARK RABAGO

Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association president Somia Quan in action during FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago's coaching clinic last Tuesday at the Agape Gymnasium.

ly 'coaching the coaches' clinics and two days of volleyball camp for 14-18 year old girls and boys. This is slightly different as we had Mike work with men's indoor volleyball players last time. This gives a different perspective for the coaches because it's a different age group and they will be running the camp under Mike's supervision," she said.

The coaching clinic is free for interested coaches and players and Quan said "is a great opportunity to gain more knowledge from a very experienced and multi-titled coach." The coaching clinic kicked off with a coaches session last Monday at the NMSA Conference Room at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

NMIBF

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so that they can see what they need to improve or a benchmark for them to be better," said Lee.

The NMIBF president couldn't emphasize more the importance of conditioning in the revamped CNMI men's and women's national basketball program.

"Cardio training is very important in any sport especially with high-intensity sports like basketball where a player have to constantly be on the move, run back and forth on both offense and defense, and have the endurance to do so for four

quarters or more per game and then repeat again the next day for the length of the tournament/league," he said.

As far as the results of the 3-mile run, 19-year-old Khristian Itaas of the Sonics finished first with a time of 22:07:50, followed by Rollers' Lucio Aldan and Joseph Sablan with times of 24:57:19 and 25:14:25, respectively.

Itaas, a 5'11" point guard studying at NMC, said he really wanted to finish first in the 3-mile run so he could show NMIBF that he's really dead-set in earning a roster spot in the CNMI men's national basketball team.

"I just always want to push myself over the limit to see where it takes me. I am very committed into wanting to be part of the CNMI team and hopefully through hard work and dedication, I am able to secure a spot and hopefully once I get in, I am going to push to be a starter," he said.

Under the leadership of Lee, NMIBF designed the national program to provide the islands a steady and deep pool of players that would suit up for the Commonwealth in several competitions, not just for next year's Micronesian Games in the Marshall Islands.

For this season, the pro-

gram is broken down into five stages with the first phase to run until July 24 this year. Tryouts are being held every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Phase 2 will be from Aug. 1 to Oct. 31; Phase 3 from Nov. 1 to Feb. 28, 2022; Phase 4 is from March 1 to June 30; and Phase 5 is from July 25 to Aug. 5, which cover the dates of matches in the 2022 Micronesian Games.

For more information about the tryouts, send email to nmibasketballfederation@gmail.com or leave a message to NMIBF's Facebook account Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation.

beach volleyball, triathlon, and golf

For Babauta, the CNMI's hosting of the 2022 Mini Games is a story of resiliency and overcoming adversity. "Rising up to the challenge. That's what the NMI is all about. That's our motto!" he told an estimated 500 people who attended the launch ceremony.

He went on to say as of June 16, 2020, the CNMI is expecting 1,300 athletes and over 400 officials from 19 countries taking part in the Pacific Mini Games next year.

As the CEO of the organizing committee, he also put in a plug for sponsorship for next year's Mini Games. "We welcome companies, organizations, and individuals interested in sponsoring to contact us. If not, we will contact you!" he said, which elicited laughs from the audience.

Peter already is anticipating that next year's Mini Games will be the biggest sporting event of 2022 and that fact is not lost in him.

"It's indeed a privilege and a tremendous responsibility for us to host this Games. It hasn't been an easy path. Since the Northern Marianas won the bid to host the Mini Games in 2015, we had to face many hurdles, namely Typhoon Soudelor, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and of course COVID-19. These all

pushed back [our hosting] of the Games from 2021 to now 2022," he said in echoing Lakhan and Torres' message.

The former congressman said instead of wallowing on the multiple tragedies, the CNMI fortunately has been handed the opportunity to lift itself up with its hosting of the Mini Games a year from now.

"This series of events have moored people down, but athletics is giving us a boost that's much needed. Athletics is allowing us to prove to ourselves that we can think and cooperate our way out of these challenging times. And we can do both of these with the strength and support of our brothers and sisters from islands across the Pacific region. We are bouncing back and I'm proud of all of us as we host this amazing event with our world-renowned Marianas hospitality," he said.

The launch ceremony started with a parade of flags that represented the participating countries in the Pacific Mini Games. It also included a performance by various island dance groups that was signaled to start by the blowing of conch shells. It was brilliantly emceed by Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), who even joked that he'll be trying out for the CNMI weightlifting team. Bishop Ryan Jimenez led the invocation.

demonstrations, types of practices, and developing the core principles of an individual coach," she said.

Quan also said the weeklong clinic is also not limited to volleyball coaches, as Rabago will also be conducting clinic sessions for the CNMI's up-and-coming and developmental volleyball players.

"We have two days of strict-

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received 750 points after runner-up finish in the SIS tourney and the same points after finishing second again in the Coconut Tennis Classic. Wang then got 1,125 points and 300 points for coming in second to Chung in both the singles and doubles events of the TSL tournament.

Holding on to the No. 3 spot in the division is Savita Sikkil with 2,425 points. She finished third in both the SIS tourney and Coconut Tennis Classic for 600 points each and then got 900 points after another third place finish in the singles of the TSL tournament before teaming up with Chung in the doubles that awarded her 325 points.

In the boys 12-and-under, Si Woo Lee has 2,725 points for the No. 1 ranking in the age group. That total was built around a first place finish in the SIS tourney (1,000 points), a third-place finish in the Coconut Tennis Classic (600 points), and a runner-up finish in the singles of the TSL tournament (1,125 points). Nasson Wessel is second in the division with 2,500 points. He topped the Coconut Tennis Classic for 1,000 points and ruled the TSL tournament for another 1,500 points.

Rounding out the Top 3 is Yutaka Kadokura with 2,050 points. The younger brother of Wataru got 400 points from the SIS tourney and another 750 from the Coconut Classic before a fourth-place finish in the singles of the TSL tournament gave him another 900 points.

Hannah Chae, Lina Tsukagoshi, and Jeong Bin Park are atop the junior rankings in the girls 12-and-under. No. 1 Chae accumulated 3,450 points via 1,000 points from the SIS tourney, 750 points from the Coconut Classic, and 1,125 points for the singles and 325 points for the doubles of the TSL tourney.

No. 2 Tsukagoshi has 2,750 points after getting 600 points each from the SIS tourney and Coconut Classic and 1,500 points for topping the TSL tourney. No. 3 Park has 1,825 points—750 points from the SIS tourney, 750 points from the singles of the TSL tourney and another 325 points after teaming up with Chae to win the doubles of the same competition.

For the boys 10-and-under, Quido Jambor leads the rankings with 2,250 points after receiving 750 points in the Coconut Classic and 1,500 points for topping the TSL tourney. Jin Ho Park is second with 1,500 points after getting 600 points in the Coconut Classic and 900 in the TSL tourney. Nathan Su is third with 1,125 points—all from topping the singles of the TSL tourney.

In the girls 10-and-under, Eliza Culp is at the helm with 1,000 points from the Coconut Classic, while Anna Lee is in second with 750 points, also all from the Coconut Classic.

NMITA keeps tabs on the junior rankings at this will determine the composition of the yearly North Pacific Regional Championships. Winners of the NPREC will then go on to compete in the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Lautoka, Fiji.

GAMES

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and reminisced on the roller-coaster ride the CNMI had to go through to just keep its hosting duties for the Mini Games.

"I remember when we won the bid in 2015 among other island-nations to host these Mini Games. I was there when former governor Eloy S. Inos made this commitment to the Pacific Games Council and to our brothers and sisters of the Pacific. Back then, the economy was looking up. Tourism was gaining strength again, and the future looked bright," he said.

Then multiple disasters struck, lamented Torres.

"Since then, we have all experienced Super Typhoon Yutu which damaged many of our sports venues. And we continue to deal with the global COVID-19 pandemic. Disaster after disaster hurt our economy. But we are a resilient people, and we all agreed that we must continue the work of hosting this Games for our children who want to be athletes one day. We do this for our athletes who have trained their whole lives for this. And we do this for our Marianas to showcase our culture with the Pacific," he said.

The launch ceremony also had Pacific Games Council president Vidhya Lakhan delivering pre-recorded message

to the people of the CNMI. In his message, Lakhan commended the CNMI for sticking to the hosting of the Mini Games despite crisis after crises that started with Typhoon Soudelor in 2015, Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018, and of course the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

He said initially, the CNMI wanted to return the hosting duties of the quadrennial event to the council for rebidding, but after some urging from the council the Torres administration agreed to hold a scaled-down version of the Mini Games.

"[We] successfully lobbied the governor that the CNMI can still host a reduced Mini Games. An agreement was made to reduce the number of sports in the [Mini] Games from 12 to six and the number of days were also reduced," said Lakhan.

Eventually, the CNMI went from returning its hosting duties to asking to add three more events to the Mini Games and in early this year the council agreed to add tennis, weightlifting, and vaa to the Games' program. In 2020, COVID-19 then forced the CNMI and the council to postpone the Mini Games to 2022.

Aside from the additional three, the original sports in the Mini Games calendar are athletics, badminton, baseball,



**Hawks rally from
26 points down,
stun 76ers in
Game 5**

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**Rabago puts
coaches thru
paces as coaching
clinic resumes**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Countdown begins for 2022 Mini Games

By **MARK RABAGO**
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A year from now yesterday, the CNMI will have the opening ceremonies for the 2022 Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games at the Oleai Sports Complex.

To help mark the occasion, the Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee held a launch ceremony where they officially started the timer for 365 days until the opening day of the event on June 17, 2021. The occasion was attended by local gov-



MARK RABAGO

ernment officials led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, sports officials led by Northern Marianas Sports Association president Jerry Tan, and Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee chair Marco Peter and its CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta. Along with the unveiling of the countdown clock, yesterday's launch also

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, fifth from right, and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, sixth from left, pose with Northern Marianas Sports Association president Jerry Tan, Pacific Mini Games 2022 Organizing Committee chair Marco Peter and CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta, first lady Diann Torres, Bishop Ryan Jimenez, Mini Games logo designer Kadi Y. Camacho, 2021 Miss Marianas Savannah Delos Santos, and 2020 Miss Earth Northern Marianas Maria Lael Terlaje during yesterday's launch ceremony for the CNMI's hosting of next year's Mini Games at the Oleai Sports Complex. Above them is the timer that reads "365 days to go" before the start of the quadrennial event.

was the official unveiling of the Mini Games logo designed by Kadi Y. Camacho.

Torres said he and his administration are excited to officially kick off the countdown

for next year's Mini Games
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Yu, Chung top U14 rankings



Chung



Yu

By **MARK RABAGO**
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June Yu and Irin Chung are shoe-ins for the 2021 North Pacific Regional Championships in Guam after topping the 14-and-under junior rankings of the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association.

Yu rules the boys 14-and-under division after accumulating 3,825 points—tied for the most points in this season's NMITA's junior rankings. He received 1,000 points each from the 2020 Saipan International School STUCO Tennis Tournament and the 2020 Coconut Tennis Classic and 1,500 points in the singles and 325 points in the doubles events of the 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament.

Wataru Kadokura and Simon Tang finished second and third in the age group with 3,325 points and 2,100 points, respectively. The former collected 750 points each in the SIS tourney and

Coconut Tennis Classic after runner-up finished to Yu. Kadokura then got another

1,500 points and 325 points in the TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament.

Tang came away with 300 points in the SIS tourney and another 600 points in the Coconut Tennis Classic. He then got 900 points for his third-place finish in the singles event of the TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament and another 300 points in the same tourney's doubles event.

Chung matched Yu's 3,825-point total in the girls 14-and-under after winning the SIS tourney (1,000 points) and Coconut Tennis Classic (1,000 points) and got another 1,500 points and 325 points for topping the singles and doubles of the TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament.

Hoo Wang is No. 2 in the girls 14-and-under with a total of 2,925 points. She

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NMIBF tryouts take page out of *Cool Runnings*

By **MARK RABAGO**
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When he was still a member of the CNMI national men's basketball team under former head coach Rufino Aguon, James Lee and his teammates used to run several laps inside the old Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

Now that he's the president of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation, it's now Lee's chance to return the favor and run aspiring CNMI men's and women's national players ragged. But that's not to say running is an end-all in itself as far as basketball is concerned, as like the John Candy comedy classic *Cool Runnings*, not only do fast runners make good bobsleighters, they are also guaranteed to make good basketball players.

Last Saturday, June 12, 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players trying out for the CNMI men's and women's national basketball teams took part in a 3-mile run organized by the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation last Saturday at the Oleai track and field.

aspiring players trying out for both the men's and women's national teams traded their high cut basketball sneakers for run-



ning shoes and took part in a 3-mile run at the track oval of the Oleai Sports Complex.

"The track time trial for our open tryout is

to see at what level each athlete are at currently. For both the national program as well as for the athletes themselves

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